

English
1651
SEVEN SEVERAL

Prest to Death

reviving

London, and Candle-Light;

And the beauteous Cover, call'd

Whose loud voyce proclaimes to all that
heare him; Another Conspiracy of Abusers
plotting together, to bring downe of this King
dome; which the *Ballad* (because he then
went stumbling forth) could never
see, till Now.

And because a Company of Rogues, with
Canting Gypsies, and all the Scumme of the
Nation fight here under their
Tattered Colours,

At the end is a Canting Dictionary, to teach their
Language: with Canting Songs.

For all to read over, because it is a
Book, they may make Strange Discoveries.

L O N D O N.
And are to be sold by *James*

The Belmans Cry.



MEN AND CHILDREN, MEN AND CHILDREN,
 'Tis not too late to mend your lives:
 Spinnight feasting's are great matters,
 Servants' pots and doo' spatters,
 When you hear this ringing Bell,
 I take it to your latest sell:
 Four a Clock the Cock is crowing,
 I must to my home be going:
 When all other men do rise,
 When must I shut my mine eyes.

MUSEVM
 BRITAN
 NICVM

DUPLICATE

Y 8 0 4

Chap. 10. Of Lady in a Box.

Chap. 11. The Bel-mans second Night walk.

Chap. 12. The Abuses of Maiden-helpers.

Chap. 13. Abuses of Ale-houses.

Chap. 14. Abuses in the Suburbs by common Strump-

ets, &c.

Chap. 15. Of proffes O.

Chap. 16. Of Canting.

A Canting Dictionary, with Canting Songs.



TO THE GLORY OF
MIDDLESEX,

The Honourable and worthily deserving
Gentlemen, His M A I N S T I N S Justices for
the Peace in that populous Countie.

O whom but to you (Noble Gentlemen, and worthy *Patriots* of your County) should I Dedicate these my *Labours*? the sicke man sends to his Doctor, the wounded man to his Chirurgion: you are both; and the Common-wealth cryes out to you for remedy: Petty enormities are the diseases, and Grand impieties are the stabs that go deep into her body. I but open the sores and shew how foule they are, the Balme is yours, and yours the skill to drop it in: It is better to empty Iayles, then to fill Hospitals, to hang a theefe, save the true man, but corruption fed, fattens mischief.

Few Saints walke up and downe the City, fewer in the Suburbs: they are the limbs infected: there many a leg is fit to be cut off: If therefore there were not Sessions houses, we should scarce have houses to dwell in; should not such as you sit there, it were no walking any where: for so our fore-fathers did complaine, and so posterity shall complaine, that fresh villaines and abuses are begotten, borne, and grow up in all parts of this Kingdome. And for that cause, Justice had need to have many hands to strike, and many swords to cut.

home: Were she borne blinde (as the Painters say she is) the wickednes of this Age, is able to lift her eye-lids open. But she sits by you cleare-sighted, and *Mercy* by her, with a hand as soft, as ever signed pardon to a condemned Prisoner. Yet to such a monstrous and ugly body, is Iniquity growne, that if the voyce of *Iustice*, should every houre in the day, and every day in the week sentence offenders to their deservings, the Whip and the Halter would never lie quiet: a Beadle would not be able to lift up his armes to his head, nor the Hangman to walke on foot to *Tyburne*.

You have strong hands over the people, and are feared where you dwell: get as strong hearts, and care not how the many headed Beast roares, so the Republique loves you. He is a true *Iustice* that can search the disease to the bottome, and has medicines to cure it: and such are you: are there any of that Character not such? *Dii Meliara*, But as in an Army, all are not Souldiers that fight and beare Armes; No more is every one a *Iustice* that beares the name, But he that is so, both *Namine & Re*; such a one as is furnished with Learning, Law, Equity, Judgement, Integrity, Discretion: If you are all such (as it is not for me to doubt) you are a brave company. I often see (for petty crimes) people hurried along the streets: what a noyse keeps them company! How those Bels in womens mouthes jangle! How they cry out to goe, not before such a one, but before such a one: Why should the face of one *Iustice* be more terrible then another! why his name! why his Warrant! It is as when crazy bodies are driven to Apothecaries: *Isleps* goe downe smoothly, bitter Pills choke: They love to see *Naomi* in your Parlors, not *Moses*. I preach without a Pulpit: this is no Sermon, but an Epistle Dedicatory, which dedicates these Discourses, and my threescore yeares devotedly,

Yours in my best service, T. DEKKER.

To the Reader.

IT is now about twenty yeares past, since a bed of strange Snakes were found: They were then but in the shell, yet when they were fully hatch'd, and began to crawl out; their poyson spred it selfe into all the parts and veines of the Kingdome, but the stench of the venom brake out most in and about London.

Candle-light was then the first that discovered that cursed Nursery of Vipers: What was the Brood, thinke you? All sorts of witty Cheaters, Tame Cony-catchers, and subtle Crosse-biters, &c. But this were (as the Spaniard sayes) Peccadilla, petty sinnes, Pigmye-villanies to these Giants which after Roar'd about the world, and the honest Intelligencer, that first opened the denne of these Monsters, was the Bel-man of London.

Here he shewes you their Pictures, and not the Pictures onely, but the misshapen persons themselves. In drawing of whose filthy proportions, albeit the poore Bel-man tooke Infinite paines, yet, when it was once Fam'd, what an excellent worke he was in hand with, A curious number of Noble Gentlemen, joynd their Counsell to the Bel-mans undertakings.

Some sent him delicate Pencils, some Notes, how and where to lay on such and such Colours: Others taught him how to shadow some of these villanies, by setting off the abuses, yet, but not hanging forth the party for a signe. So that, where at the beginning, the Bel-man feared he should have wanted worke: In the end he had more then he could turne his hands to.

Heartned with these Auxiliary forces, he came braving

into the field, not caring what Canons of mischiefe, this Army of Furies (here mustered together) could or durst discharge against him.

But now, whole Acres of new, and as yet unknown needs are crop't up, which the Bel-man with his finger points to, and shewes them to the eye of Iustice, that she being the best and ablest Gardner, to weed the Republique, and (having cleansed it) to dresse it up, neatly, and in order, may so pluck them up by the root, they may no more be seene to deface so goodly a Common-wealth.

All that before was written, or is now newly added, is to yeeld thee profit and pleasure. Neither wonder how the Bel-man should lay open such a number of Villanies, unlesse he himselfe should in his owne person, cry guilty to all: No, an Apothecary may know all poysons, yet practise them upon none. He neuer poysons himselfe, yet after the strongest and most killing ones are corrected, he gives them Physically, for his Patients preservation.

So they are prescribed to thee here, to the end that by knowing the secret mischiefes, abuses, villanies, and treacheries of the World, thou mayest arme thy selfe against them, or guard thy friend by advice from them. He sayes as the wanton Poet does of himselfe.

Lasciva est nobis Pagina, vita proba est.

{ Reade and Laugh.
{ Reade and Learne.
{ Reade and Loath.

{ Laugh at the Knavery,
{ Learne out the Mysterie.
{ Loath the base Villanie.

Farewell.

THE BEL-MANS SECOND NIGHTS

W A L K E.

With his O-PER-SE-O.

CHAP. I.

What matters were tryed at a Terme that
was in Hell.

Thus was a Terme in Hell, by which meantes Don
Lucifer had better doings, and more rapping at
his gates, then all the Donors and Imperiall
Druck-salvers of ten Cities have at theirs in a
great Plague time.

The Hall where these Termers were to try their causes,
was very large and strongly built, but it had one fault, it was
so hot that people could not stand to walke there: yet to walke
there they were compelled, by reason they were byatons thither
upon occasions, and such jostling there was of one another,
that it would have grieved any man to be in the throngs a-
mongst them. Nothing could be heard but noise, and nothing
of that noise be understood, but that it was a sound, as of men
in a Kingdome, when on a sudden it is in an uproare. Every
one byabled with him that he walked with, or if he did but tell
his tale to his Councell, he was so eager in the very delivery of
that tale, that you might have thought they did byable: and
such gnashing of teeth there was when adversaries met toge-
ther, that the spring of ten thousand fountains cannot pers-
e a sound more horrible. The Judge of the Court had a terrible
countenance, and as cruel he was in punishing those that

A descrip-
tion of the
Hall where
matters are
tryed in
Hell.

The Bel-mans Night-walkes.

were condemned by Law, as he was crabbed in his lookes, to be hanged by the necke, for he was late to heare their tryalls.

But albeit there was no pittie to be expected at his hands, yet was hee so upright in Justice, that none could ever fasten upon him, for he was ready and willing to heare the Cryes of all comers. Neither durst any Pleader (at the infernall Barre) or any Officer of the Court, read any Fee of Plaintiffes, and such as complained of wrongs and were oppressed: but onely they payd that were the wrong doers, those would they see damn'd ere they should get out of their fingers, such fellows they were appointed to beare at the very soule.

The cu-
stomes and
condition
of the
Court.

The matters that here were put in suite, were more then could be tryed in twenty Vacations, yet should a man be dispatched out of hand. In one terme he had his Judgement: for here they never stand upon Returnes, but presently come to Triall. The causes decided here, are many; the Clients that complaine many, the Counsellors (that pleade till they be hoarse) many; the Attournies (that run up and downe) infinite; the Clarkes of the Court, not to be numberd. All these have their hands full; day and night are they so plagued with the hawling of Clients, that they never can rest.

The Inke wherewith they write, is the blood of Conjurers: they have no paper, but all things are engrossed in Parchment, and that Parchment is made of Scridenets skinned flayed off, after they have beene punished for Forgerie: their Standishes are the Skulls of Usurers: their Penes, the bones of unconscionable Brokers, and hard hearted Creditors, that have made Dice of other men bones, or else of perjured Creditors and blind Over-seers, that have eaten up Widowes and Orphans to the bare bones; and those Penes are made of purple without Pebs, because they may cast Inke but slowly in mockery of those, who in their life time were slow in predding drops of pittie.

What mat-
ters are try-
ed before
the Devill.

Would you know what actions are tryed here? I will but turne over the Records, and reade them unto you as they hang upon the File.

The Courtier is sued here, and condemned for Ryots.

The Souldier is sued here, and condemned for Murders.

The

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

The Scholler is sued here, and condemned for Heresies.

The Citizen is sued here, and condemned for the Citi-fins : their wibes for Pride, and servants for Stealth.

The Farmer is sued here upon Penal Statutes, and condemned for spoiling the Markes.

ACTIONS of batterry are brought against Swaggers, and here they are bound to the Peace.

ACTIONS of Waste are brought against Drunkards and Captures, and here they are condemned to drinke at the Gate for one droppe of cold water to coole their tongues, or one crum of bread to stay their hunger, yet are they denyed it.

Harlots have proccesse sued upon them here, & are condemned to Howling, to Rottenness, and to Stench. No Acts of Parliament that have passed the Upper house, can be broken, but here the breach is punished, & that severely, and that suddenly. For here they stand upon no Demurres, no Audita Querela can here be gotten, no writs of Errors to reverse Iudgement : here is no flying to a Court of Chancerie for reliefe, yet every one that comes hither is served with a Subpœna. So, they deale altogether in this Court upon the Habeas Corpus, upon the Capias, upon the Ne exeat Regnum, upon Rebellion, upon heauie Fines (but no Recoveries) upon writs of Out-lawry, to attache the body for ever, & last of all upon Executions after Iudgment, which being served upon a man is his Everlasting Vndoing.

Such are the Customes and courses of proceedings in the Officers belonging the Prince of Darknesse. These hotte doings hath hee in his Terme-times. But upon a day when a great matter was to bee tryed betweene an Englishman and a Dutch-man, which of the two were the solest Detractors, and the case being long time in arguing, by reason that strong evidence came in reeling on both sides, (yet it was thought that the English-man would carry it away, and cast the Dutch-man) on a suddaine all was staied by the sound of a hoine that was heard at the lower end of the Hall. And every one looking backe (as wondering at the strangenesse) roome, roome, was cryed and made through the thickest of the crowd, for a certaine Spirit in the likeness of a Post, who made way on a little leane flag up to the Bench

The Bel-mans Night-walkes.

where Judge Radamant with his two great Brothers (Minos and Eacus) late. This Spirit was an intelligencer sent by Beelzebub of Barathrum, into some countries of Christendome to lye there as a spie, and had brought with him a packet of letters from severall Legiers that lay in those Countries, for the service of the Tartarian, their Lord and master; which packet being opened, all the Letters (because they concerned the generall good and state of those low Countries in Hell) were publicly read. The contents of that Letter that sung most, and put them all out of their Laid cases, tendeth to this purpose.

A Letter against the Bel-man.

That whereas the Lord of the fiery Lakes had his Spies in all Kingdomes above the earth, whose Offices were not onely to win the subjects of other Princes to his obedience, but also to give notice when any of his vaine sworne household, or any other that held league with him should revolt or lie from their allegiance: also to discover from time to time, all plots, conspiracies, machinations or underminings, that should be laid (albeit they that durst lay them should dig deepe enough) to blow up his great infernall Citie: so that if his horned Regiment were not suddenly mustred together, and did not lustily beset their cloven shumps, his Territories would be shaken, his Dominions left in time unpeopled, his forces looked into, and his authority which he held in the world, contented and laughed to scorn. The reason was, that a certain fellow; The child of Darknesse, a common Night-walker, a man that had no man to wait upon him but only a Dog, one that was a disordered person, and at midnight would beat at mens dores, bidding them (in a mere mockery) to looke to their candles, when they themselves were in their dead sleeps: and albeit he was an Officer, yet he was but of light carriage, being knowne by the name of the Bel-man of London, had of late, not onely drawn a number of the Devils owne kindred into question for their lives, but had also, onely by the helpe of the Lanthorne and Candle, lookt into the secrets of the best states that are taught in Hell, laying them open to the broad eye of the world, making them infamous, odious, and ridiculous: yea, and not satisfied with doing this wrong to his Devilship,

The Bel-man.

Whereunto is added O per se O.

bet ship, very spitefully hath he set them out in print, vnder their pictures so to the life, that not a horse-stealer shall not shew his head, but a halter with the hangmans noose to stand to be fastened about it: A forger no; a swag shall not make in to a fappe or a playhouse, but every cracker will cry, looke to your purses: no; a poyse common Rogue come to a nines dooze, but he shall be examined if he can Cant. If this Bawling fellow therefore have not his mouth stop't, the light Angels that are copied below, will never be able to passe as they have done, but be mapled up for counterfeits. Hell will have no doings, and the Devil be no body.

This was the tyning of the Letter, and this Letter vnder them all to a Non-plus, because they knew not how to answer it. But at last advice was taken, the Court vnderdrew, the Terme was adourned (by reason that the Hel-bounds were thus plagu'd) and a common counsell in hell, was presently called how to respede these abuses.

The Sathanicall Synagogue being set, up starts the Father of Hell and Damnation, and looking very terribly, with a paire of eyes, that stared as wide as the South gates at Bishopsgate, fetching foure or fife deepe sighes (which were nothing else but the smoke of fire and Brimstone burning in his stomacke, and shewed as if he were taking Tobacco, which hee often times does) told his choyce and servants (and the rest of the Citizens that dwell within the freedom of Hell, and sate there before him upon narrow low formes) that they never had moze cause to lay their heads together, and to grow politicians. Yee and they all knew that from all the corners of the earth some old stery haine in a day creepe toozth, to come and serue him: yea, that many thousands were so bewitched with his labours, and rare parts, that they would come running quicke to him: his dominions (he sayd) were great, and full of people: Emperours, and Kings, (in infinite number) as also his Nobles, his Court was full of priuies: if the world were diuided (as some report) but into three parts, then in those three were his, or if (as others affirme) into foure, almost three of that foure he had some footing in.

But if such a fellow as a terrible voyt'd Belman, it ou'd bee

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suffered with his night-rites to pry into the infernall mysteries, and into those blacke Arts, which command the spirits of the Deep, and having sucked what knowledge hee can from them, to turne it all into poison, and to spit it in the very faces of the professors, with a malicious intent to make them appeare ugly, and so to grow hateful and out of favour with the world: if such a Coniurer at midnight should dance in their circles, and not be driven out of them, hell in a few yerres would not be worth the dwelling in. The great Lord of Limbo did therefore command all his blacke guard that stood about him, to bestirre them in their places, and to defend the Court where in they lived: threatening (besides) that his curse, and all the plagues of stinking hell should fall upon his officers, servants and subjects, unless they either advis'd him how, or take some speedy order themselves when to punish that sancte Intelligence the Bel-man of London. Thus he spake and then sate downe.

At last, a foolish De vill rose up and shot the bolt of his advice, which flew thus farre: That the Blacke-Dogge of Newgate should againe bee let loose, and a farre off follow the Wauling Bel-man, to watch into what places hee went, and what deeds of darkenesse (every night) he did. Hinc Ritus. The whole Synodically assembly fell a laughing at this wise-acre, so that neither he, nor his black Dog durst harke any more.

Others stept up, some pronouncing one verdo, some another: But at the last, it was concluded & set downe as a rule in Court, that some one strange spirit, who could transport himselfe into all shapes, should be sent up to London, and scorning to take revenge upon so meane a person as a Bel-ringer, should thrust himselfe into such companies (as in a warrant to be signed for that purpose) should be nominated, and being once growne familiar with them, he was to worke and win them by all possible means, to fight under the dimmall & black colours of the Grand Sophy (his Lord and Master:) the fruit that was to grow upon this tree of hell, would be great, for it should be fit service for Don Lucifers Table as a new banqueting dish, withence all other meats, (though they tasted him well), were growne stale.

Whereupon Pameriell the spellenger was called; a Passport was drawne, signed and delivered to him, with certaine instructions

Whereunto is added, O per se O.

Armatious how to carry himselfe in his travell. And thus much was openly spoken to him by word of mouth.

Fly Pameriel with speed to the great and populous Citie in the West: wind thy selfe into all shapes: bee a Dogge (to satone) a Dragon (to confound) bee a Dove (seemie innocent) bee a Devill (as thou art,) and shew that thou art a Journeyman to Hell. Build rather thy nest amongst Willowes that bend every way, then on tops of Oakes, whose heads are hard to be broken: Flye with the Swallow, close to the earth, when stormes are at hand: but keepe company with Birds of greater Tallons, when the weather is cleere, and never leave them till they looke like Ravens: creepe into holmes that are buttoned up in Sattin, and there spread the wings of thine infection: make every head thy pillow to leane upon: or sit it like a mill wheele to grinde mischete. If thou meetest a Dutchman, drinke with him: if a Frenchman, flatter: if a Spaniard, betray: if an Italian, poison: if an Irishman, flatter: if an Englishman, doe all this.

Hauit Favernes, there thou shalt find Whoredoms: pay the two pence to a Player, in his Gallery mayest thou sit by a Harlot: at Ordinaries mayest thou dine with filther fooles: when the day steales out of the world, thou shalt meete rich Drunkards under welked gownes, search for threescor in the hundred, hugge those golden villaines, they shine bright, and will make a good show in hell: make with a stickel in the Brew-house, and watch how they comure there: Rise up and do some Smithfield, and play the Jade there: Cusse Wyllons, and teach Taylors how to make nets of Iron there: bind thy selfe Apprentice to the best trades: but if thou canst grow ex-treeme rich in a very short time (honestly,) I banish thee my Kingdome, come no more into hell, I have read thee a lecture, follow it; farewell.

So sooner was farewell spoken, but the spirit to whom all these matters were given in charge, banished: the cloven footed Orator arose, and the whole assembly went about their damnable business.

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Of Gal-groing.

CHAP. II.

How Gentlemen are cheated at Ordinaries.

The Devils foore-man was very nimble of his heels, for no lusty Irish-man could outrunne him, and therefore in a few houres was he come up to London: the miles betwene Hell and any place upon earth, being shorter then those betwene London and Saint Albones, to any man that travells from hence thither, or to any Lacky that comes from thence hither, on the Devils errands: but to any other poore soule, that dwells in these Low countries, they are never at an end, and by him are not possible to be measured.

As soone as he entred into the Citie, but he met with one of his speekers daughters called Pride, which like a merchants wife, who taking acquaintance of him, and understanding for what he came, told him, that the first thing he was to doe, hee must put himselfe in good cloathes, such as were suitable to the fashion of the time, for that here, men were look'd upon onely for their out sides: he that had not ten pounds worth of wares in his shop, would carry twenty marks on his backe: that there were a number of sumpter-houses in the Citie, who cared not how comely they were, so they might weare gay trappings: yea, that some poore soles, to put on sattin and velvet but four dayes in the yeere, and oftentimes undoe themselves, houses, and children ever after. The spirit of the Devils Buttery hearing this, made a legge to Pride for her counsell, and knowing by his owne experience that every Taylor hath his hell to himselfe under his shop-board, (where he damnes new sattin) amongst them he thought to finde best welcome, and therefore into Birchin-lane he stalkes very manfully, Pride going along with him, and taking the upper hand.

As soone as hee entred into the ranks of the Linnen Armours, (whose weapons are Spanish needles) but he was most far, so and sharpe set upon, every pientise boy had a pull at him: hee feared they all had becom Sericants, because they all had him by the backe: never was poore devill so tormented in hell, as hee was amongst them: hee thought it

Birchin-
Lane de-
scribed.
Taylors at
first were
called *Lis-*
sen Arm-
ours.
Serjants.

had

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them should beare a Catalogue of most of the richest London
Whores: and last that it was a Schoole where they were all
fellows of one syle, and that a Country Gentleman was of
the great standing, as the greatest Justice that late staid on the
West-side of him: so he that had the grain of the Table totty
his Truncheon, put his nose then he that placed himself beneath
the Table: here he hears Frogs pines, peters & thunders collect,
and begins to utter his words.

The Devils Intelligence could not be contented to fill his
eye only with these Objects, and to feed his belly with delicate
cheere: but he eye'd a larger picture of all that were there, and
in these colours.

The Cloyster having cleared the Table, Cards and Dice (for
the last spelle) are settes up to the Board: they that are full of
Cogn, draw: they that have little, stand by and give ayme: they
Shuffle and Cut on one side: the bones rattle on the other: long
have they not playd, but rather flye up and down the roome
like Vaine-wort: if the poore wretched Dice be but a little out of
square, the Fox and a thousand Plagues break their necks out
at a window: presently after, the four Knaves are set packing
the same way, or else (like heretics) are condemned to be burnt.

In this battaile of Cards and Dice, are severall Regiments,
and severall Officers.

They that sit down to play, are at first tallow Leaders.

They that lose, are the Forlorne-Hope.

He that wins all, is the Eagle.

He that stands by and ventures, is the Wood-Pecker.

The fresh Gallant that is fetcht in, is the Gull.

He that stands by and lends, is the Gul-groper, or Im-
post-taker.

The Gul-groper.

This Gul-groper, is commonly an old money-monger,
who having travell'd through all the follies of the world
in his youth, knowes them well, and shuns them in his age,
his whole felicity being to fill his Purses with Gold and Silver:
he comes to an Ordinary, to save charges of house-keeping, and
will eate for his two shillings, more meat then will serve
three of the Guard at a Dinner, yet sweare he comes thither
onely

Whereunto is added O. P. J. A. O.

only for the company, and to converse with travellers. It is a
Gold Finch that seldom goes to these Ojinaris Bells, with-
out a hundred or two hundred pounds in current passing pieces
about him. After the tearing of some seven nap's of Cards, or
the drawing of some ten balls of Dice, keeps he upon the stage,
and this part he plays. At any of the Forlorn Hope bet a
Gentleman of meanes either in Elbe or in Poll, (and that the
old Fore will be sure to know to halle an Ace) whose money
runnes at a low ebbe, as may appeare by his scratching of the
head, and walking up and down the roome, as if he wanted
an Oyster. The Gul-groper takes him to a side window, and
tells him, he is loze to lose his hard lucke, but the Dice are
made of womens bones, and will couzen any man, yet for his
Fathers sake (whom he hath knowne so long) if it please him
he shall not leave off play for a hundred pound or two. At
my young Estrich came to swallow downe this mettall (as
for the most part they are very greedy, having such prowi-
der set before them) then is the gold payed on the board, a
Bond is made for a repayment, at the next quarter day,
when Exhibition is sent in: and because it is all gold, and
cost so much the changing, the Scrivener (who is a wheyle
of the Gallies olme breeding) knowes what wordes will
bite, which thus he fastens upon him, and in his net the Gull
is sure to be taken (holmebever:) for if he fall to play againe,
and loose, the hoary Goat-bearded Satyre that stands at his
elbow, laughs in his sleeve: if his baggs be so recovered of
their falling sicknesse, that they be able presently to repay the
borrowed gold, then Monsieur Gul-groper steals away of
purpose to avoyde the receipt of it, he hath fatter Chickens in
hatching: it is a fairer marke he shootes at. For the day be-
ing come when the Bond grows due, the withnamed Sig-
nior Auaro, will not be within: or if he be at home, he hath
wedges enough in his pate, to cause the Bond to be broken: or
else a little before the day, he feedes my young Gaster with
sweet words, that sursetting upon his protestations, he neg-
lects his payment, as presuming he may doe more. But the
Laird having a hand in the lasture of the Bond, layes pre-
sently hold of our young Gallant with the helpe of a couple of
Sericants, and just at such a time when old Erra Pater (the

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Jew) that lent him the money, answers by his bloudy Ioy-
nification, that the Spone with the silver face is with him in
the loane. Nothing then can free him out of the pangs of these
blood-bonds, but he must presently confesse a judgement, for so
much money, or for such a space, or a ship (three times
worth the bond to be paid) to be paid, or to be entered upon by him,
by such a day, or within so many months after he comes to his
land. And thus are long beeres coneyed of their Acres, before
they well know where they lie.

The Wood-pecker.

The Wood-pecker is a Bird that sits upon a perch too, but
is nothing so dangerous as this Villaine spoken of before.
Hee deales altogether upon Returnes, (as men doe that take
three for one, at their coming backe from Jerusalem, &c.) for
having a Jewell, a Cloake, a Ring with a Diamond, or any such
like commodity, he notes him well that commonly is best ac-
quainted with the Dice, and hath ever good lucke: to him hee
offers his prize, rating it at ten or fifteene pound, when happily
it is not worth above six, and so it he bargaines to receive the
ballings or ten ballings (according as it is in value) at every
hand, second, third, or fourth hand he plays: by which meanes
he perhaps in a short time, makes that peece but forty or fifty
pound, which cost not halfe twenty. Many of these Merchant
Venturers saile from Ordinary to Ordinary, being sure al-
wayes to make saving voyages, when they that put in time
twies more then they are for the most part losers.

The Owl.

Not either the Leaders, or The forlorne Hope, or a-
ny of the rest, chance to heare of a young Fresh-water
Souldier that never before followed these strange warres, and
yet hath a charge newly given him (by the olde fellow Sol-
dado Veccio his father, when death led him into the
Grave) of some ten or twelve thousand in ready money, be-
sides so many hundredes a yeere: first are Scouts sent out
to discover his Lodging: that knowne, some lye in ambush
to note what Apothecaries Shoppe hee resorts to every mor-
ning, or in what Tobacco-shop in Fleetstreete he takes a pipe
of Smoake in the afternoone: that first which the Young
holde, is sure to be beleagured by the whole troupe of the old

the other beaten Gallants: amongst whom some one, ^{which} ~~is~~ ^{is} thought to be of a better blocke for his head, than the rest, is appointed to single out our Novice, and after some time of five dayes spent in complement, our heire to Lehen hundred a peere is vantage to an Ordinary, into which hee no looner enters, but all the old ones in that best butter about him, embrace, protest, kisse the hand. Conge to the very garter, and in the end (to show that hee is no small soole, but that hee knowes his father left him not so much money for nothing,) the young Cull suffers himselfe to be drenched to the stake: to flesh him, Fortune and the Dice (or rather the false Dice, that cozen Fortune, and make a fool of him too) shall so favour him, that hee matches away from a battaile of two the only winner. But afterwards, let him play how warily so ever he can, the damned Dice shall crosse him, and his silver crosses shall blisse those that play against him: for even they that seeme dearest to his bosome, shall first be ready, and hee the lozenest to enter with the other Leaders into conspiracy, how to make spoyle of his golden bags. By such ransacking of Citizens some a wealth, the Leaders maintaine themselves byate, the Forlorne Hope, that dzooped befoze, both now gallantly come on. The Eagle feathers his nest, the Wood-picker picks up the crans, the Gul-proper grows fatte with good feeding: and the Cull himselfe, at whom every one has a quail, hath in the end scarce feathers enough to keep his owne backe warme.

To these there is another to be added, no lesse pernicious then any, and indeed somewhat more in the Devils favour, by as much as the deceit is commonly received with the greatest persons, and this is the Impostor or impostor. This fellow is one of the greatest eminence, as an Atlas supports the Ordinary on his shoulders; he looks for a favour from heaven, for he will use no curtesie on earth, & will speeche he accounts the fooles language, and rudenesse he loves more then meat, drink, or humanity, he cares not on whom he spits, whose Cloake he seares with his spurs, nor whose name he durties with soude reproaches: His Signior who is so being (as it were) the God of the Ordinary, & as one as the young Cull is taken amongst these Ravens, after he hath abused him some five or six times, and made other foles hold so do you the like injury.

The Bel-mans Night-walkes.

seeing he hath posselt him with a feare of his humors and admiration of his valour, presently falls into an infatuation with the young Gull, and from a Tyrant becomes a flatterer, no man then shall dare to doe the Gull disgrace but he is his champion; he defends his carriage, makes his folly wisdom, his cowardise discretion, his impudence modestie, his unthankfulness courtesy education, and all his simplicitie a most admirable soyme of out landish behaviours; so that the poore Gull proud of his intinacie, hides himselfe under this Eagles wing, and thinks there is no heaven but that to which his friendship beares him. Assoone as the Impostor perceives this, presently he animates the Gull to all courses of unthriftinesse, especially to game, as to Primero, Glecke, or the like, in which he dignifies his cunning so much that the Gull thinks himselfe a graduate ere he know A. B. C. in the Devils booke-book: then to make him more valiant in his owne undoing, this Impostor (who is the Loastone that directs the Gulls Compassse) will be his halfe in game and sit close by his elbow, so as he may looke into his cards (having formerly made his match with a third person who is the opposite Gannester, and the Impostors friends halfe also) no game of likely-hood comes into the Gulls hand but the Impostor by several signes tells it to the aduerse party, as such a motion with his globe for sixe and fiftie, such a curling of his haire for Wyne, such a rubbing of his nose for nine and thirtie, such a finger for such a number, such a finger for such, so that the poore Gull shall not have a Game that he will not discover. When thus they have cheated him of all his substance, then the Impostor lends him more money, till the Gulls credit be on the uttermost tenter; then he makes him take money, Jewels, Cloakes, Garments, or anything upon Impost, (which is to pay so much upon every stake till such a time he be raised, or if it be at Dice, so much upon every game till such a time be repayed) and having sucked whilst one drop of blood will come, the Impostor begins to quarrell in the Gulls behalfe, and in that tumult, game is broke off, all are dispersed and the Impostor and his companion share the Gulls goods betwene them.

There is also another which is called a Deluder, this fellow for the most part, is a man of substance, he commonly wears on

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

On his little finger of his left hand a faire table Diamond, or a square Topas, which turning inwards as he drawes the cards will discover every Card he willet, and then flipping those which are for his purpose, he maketh his game as sure as he had leade to chuse what cards he pleaseth; If this Deluder be not able to compass such a Ring, then he will have a most excellent hatcht silver Rapier so purely polisht and trimd, that no Looking-glasse can shew any figure fayer; this Rapier he layes crosse his waste just under his left hand, and (in it) seeing what cards he draweth, makes the same use was spoke of the Diamond, and thus simplicity being made a leane fool, and his plaine dealing a Begger, knaves grow rich as the Devill; and teene with the curses of undone people.

The Post-master of Hell, seeing such ballast to go up and down in Cloakes lined clean thorow with Hellbet, was glad he had such netwies to send over, and therefore sealing up a Letter full of it, delivered the same to filthy-bearded Caron (their stout Water-man) to be convey'd first to the Porter of Hell, and then (by him) to the spalter-keeper of the Devils.

Of Ferretting.

CHAP. III.

The manner of undoing Gentlemen by taking up of Commodities.

Hunting is a Noble a manly, and healthfull exercise, it is a very true picture of War, nay it is a War in it selfe, for Engines are brought into the field, Stratagemes contrived, Ambushes layd, Onsets given, Alarms struck up, brave Encounters made, fierce assailing are resisted by strength, by courage, by policy: the enemy is pursued, and the Pursuers never give over till they have him in execution; then is a Retreat sounded, then are Troopes divided, then come they home wearied, but yet crowned with honour and victorie. And as in Battalles there be severall manners of fight: so in the pastime of Hunting, there are severall degrees of Game.

Some hunt the Lion, and that shewes, as when Subjects rise in Armes against their King. Some hunt the Unicorn, for the Tricke on his Head, and they are like rovelous

The Belmans Night-walkes.

Hunting of
the Bucke.

tous men, that care not whom they kill for riches. Some hunt the spotted Panther, and the speckled Leopards, they are such as to enjoy their pleasure, regard not how black an infants sticke upon them: all these are barbarous and unnaturall Huntsmen, for they range up and down the Deserts, the Gladerne, and the mountains. Others pursue the long-lived Hart, the courageous Stag, or the nimble footed Doe: these are the noblest hunters, and they exercise the noblest game: these by following the Chase, get strength of body, a free and undisturbed minde, magnanimity of spirit, alacrity of heart, and unweariednesse to breake through the hardest labours: their pleasures are not insatiable, but contented to be kept within limits, for these hunt within Parkes inclosed or with-

Hunting of
the Hare.

in bounded Forrests. The hunting of the Hare teaches feare to be bold, and puts simplicity to her wits, that she grows cunning and prudent: the turnings and crosse windings that she makes are emblemes of this lifes uncertainty: when she thinks she is furthest from danger, it is at her heels, and when it is nearest to her, the hand of safety defends her. When she is wearied and hath run the race, she takes her death patiently, thereby to teach man to make himselfe ready, when the grave gapes for him.

All these kinds of hunting are abroad in the open field, but there is a close City-hunting, onely within the walles, that pulls down Parks, layes open Forrests, destroys Chases, wounds the Deere of the Land, and makes such havoc of the goodliest Beasts, that (by their wits, who are the Rangers) none should be left alive but the Rascals. This kind of hunting is base and ignoble. It is the meanest, yet the most mischievous, and it is called Ferreting. To behold a chase or two at this, did the light-horseman of Hell one day leape into the saddle.

City-Hunting

What per-
sons follow
the game of
Ferret-hun-
ting.

This Ferret-hunting hath his reasons as other Games have, and is onely followed at such a time of yeare, when the Gentry of our Kingdome by riots, having chased themselves out of the faire rebenewes and large possessions left to them by their Ancestors, are forced to hide their heads like Conies, in little Caves, and in unfrequented places: or else being almost undelesse, by running after sensuall pleasures too fiercely, they

Whereunto is added, *o per se o*.

by, they are glad to; keeping themselves in breath so long as they can; till the Ferret-hunting, that is to say, to take up Com-

modities, may be made; and then they go to the Ferret, but it must pull under their feet and hands.

1. The first part is up and down to find Game, is called the Tumble; so called, because the Game is tumbling down.

2. The second part is the Game that is taken up, are called Partners.

3. The third part is the Game that is taken up, are called Partners.

4. They that take up, are the Rabbit-Suckers.

5. He, upon whose ground these Rabbit-Suckers run, is called the Warren.

The Tragedy of Ferret-hunting divided into five acts.

How the Ferret-hunting is made.

After a rain Continents to come out of their holes, and to sit nibbling on Willows, or any thing in the roots of the evening; And after a Rebelling, when younger Brothers have spent all, or in Gaming have lost all, they sit plotting in their chambers, with necessity, how to be furnished presently with a new supply of money. They would take up any Commodity whatsoever, but their names stand in too many Lettered Letters already in Merchants and Grocers Books: upon a hundred pounds worth of Roasted Beefe, they could find in their hearts to venture, for that would keep in hanging of a hand; but where they shall find a Watcher, or a Cooke, that will let any man run so much as the Nose for their money. Suppose therefore that some of such kind of honest Gallants were tied in one knot, and hinc to no other is taken themselves upon some foolishly attempt. At length it comes into their heads, that such a young Noble (who was known to be of their company) has been travelling in an City since he was young. They know his present means to be good, and that to come to be great: but therefore they lay upon the Noble of their wiles, till they have to make him like the City; and then they go to them, and say, my thing in the City, or where the Noble has been, has been a great success to him, (because he has been in the City) he is easily caught: for he considers nothing but that they are all well descended, they have rich fathers, they were good chamberlains, have been gallant spenders, and so

The *Belmont* Nightwalkes.

now, and then (still) let it fly freely: he is to venture upon no more rocks then all they, what then should he search, he therefore resolves to do it, and the rather because his own exhibition runs low, and that he needs a great many woeke to the Quarter day, at which time, he shall be replenished from his father. The match being thus agreed upon, one of them that has been an old Ferret-monger, and knowes all the tricks of such hunting seeks out a Tumbler, that is to say, a fellow, who beats the bush for them till they catch the Wren, he himselfe being contented (as he protestes and swears) onely with a few feathers.

The Tumblers hunting dry-foot.

The nature of a London Tumbler.

This Tumbler being let loose, runs snuffing up and downe, close to the ground, in the Shops either of Grocers, Goldsmiths, Drapers, Haberdashers, or of any other Trade, where he thinks he may meet with a Ferret: and though upon his very first Course he can find his Game, yet to make his Gallants more hungry, and to thinke he wearies himselfe in hunting the more, he comes to them sweating, and swearing that the City Ferrets are so cooped (that is to say, have their lips stitched up close) that he can hardly get them open to so great a summe as five hundred pounds, which they desire. This while being shewled down by the Rabbet-suckers, almost kills their hearts, and is worse to them then dabbling on the necks to Conies. They bid him if he cannot fasten his teeth upon Plate, or Cloath, or Satten, to lay hold on broken Paper, or Tobacco, Bartholomew Babies, Little Drings, or Bonnyes, or five hundred pounds in Saint Thomas Onions; and the rest in money, the Onions they could get wenchers enough to cry and sell them by the Rope, and what remaines should serve them with spouton. Upon this, their Tumbler trots up and down again. And at the last lighting on a Citizen that will deale, the names are retorted and belivered to a Sequencer, who enquiring whether they be good men and true, that are to passe upon the life and death of five hundred pounds, finds that foure of the five, are wind-shaken, and ready to fall into the Lords hands: marry the fifth man is an Oake, and there's hope that he cannot be bew-

Whereunto is added, 0 per se 10

ed down in haste. Upon him therefore the Citizen builds so much as comes to five hundred pounds, yet takes in the other four, to make them serve as scaffolding, till the frame be furnished, and if thereof hold, he cares not greatly who takes the burden. In all halls are the Woods staled, and the commodities belaboured. And then does the Tumbler catch his second, and there, and there.

The Tumbler's building center.

The wares which they liethen for, being in the hand of the
the shewers, he hath money; therefore they liethen him to
turne those wares into ready money; then before they liethen
troubled to turne their credits into wares. The tree being
once moze to bee shaken, they know it will loose fruite, and
therefore their faddy must hurtle away their merchandise;
tho it bee with losse: Alway into the City he goes for that
purpose, and deales with him that sold, to buy his owne com-
modities againe for ready money; Hee will not doe it under
thirty pound losse in the hundred: other Merchants betwixt
are tyed at the same marke, but all keepe much about one
scantling: backe therefore comes their Carrier with three
nettes, that no man will disburse so much present money
upon any wares whatsoever. Onely he met by good Fortune,
with one friend (and that friend is himselfe) who for 10. l.
will procure them a Chapman, marry that Chapman will
not buy unless he may have them at 30. l. losse in the hundred:
Euen say all the shewers, a Word on these fore-said Cir-
cumstions, give that fellow your friend 10. l. for his paines,
and fetch the rest of the money: within an houre after, it is
brought, and polvyed downe in ones heap upon a Taverne Ta-
ble; where making a goodly show, as if it could never bee
spent, all of them consist what Fee the Tumbler is to take,
for Hunting is well, and conclude that lesse then 10. l. they can
not give him, which 10. l. is the first told out, now let us
cast up this account: In every 100. l. is 10. l. which being
5. times 20. l. makes 100. l. that summe the Farcowles are
to receive besides his other paying the Fellowes wages which was
10. l. and 10. l. more, which the Tumbler givethem all.

The Bell-mans Night-walkes.

other 10. l. which he hath for his voyage, all which makes
170. l. which deducted from 500. l. there remaineth onely 330.
to be divided amongst five, so that every one of the partners
shall have but 66. l. yet this they all put up humbly, walking
down the streets with sack and sugar, whereof they drinke
that night profusely: nay it hath been newly reported, that
one Gentleman of great hopes took up the hundred pounds in
browne Paper, and sold it for forty pound, another hundred
pound in Hobby-horses, and sold them for thirty pound, and six-
teen pound in points of English and French of Ladies, which
was sold them for three pound, and a Lachman, who was
strange but not wonderfull.

How the Warren is Spoiled.

V When the faire weather lasteth, and that there is
a goodly gathering of people upon the best Rabber-hackers
heape to the Warren, whereat they saile: but the cold day
of September approaching, they retire heape into their caves:
so that when the Ferret makes account to have five before him
in chase, four of the five hide themselves, and are hid in other
ground. Sometime then if the Ferret grow harte, and tear
open his white jawes, so that blood flow from him that is left: no
marvell that he scratch what wool he can from his backe: the
Pursuers that were set, are all taken up and are carried away.
The Warren therefore must be searched, That must pay for
all: where that does he range like a little Aye? Herpents,
Spawles, men, and Baiters are sent forth, who lie waiting
at every corner, and with terrible power hunt every warke.
In conclusion, the first that these hunters fly after, is seized
upon, then are his feathers plucked, his Estate looke into, then
are his wings broken; his lames hams over to a stranger: then
must hee young woman and boy pay 100. hundred pound, (for
which he never had but 66. pound) of this he is in prison. No
keepe himselfe from prison, he scales to any bond, enters into
any straits, nor payeth any Aye, nor does any thing, saves
anything, yet he is in prison. And this City of London
(that is called a City) will be sure to be a City of London
though he be kept never so long, can live upon him once

The Dr. Quibb Night-walkes. W

Soonestly the time of dayerunt the Country in the
the dayes: Plumes Post feeling him, stand still to watch them,
and at length catch them in their galleys like the birds in good-
ly fairs place. In the either some Knight: yet some great
Gentleman kept: and this goodly house the like unto the
tridge which those Falconers had found: Whereunto loath to
lose his share in this Hawking, and having power to trans-
forme himselfe as he listeth, came thither as soone as they, but
beheld all (which they did) in vaine. They both like two
Knights of arms, and so they were let
in: The one walkes the Palace in an outward Court, as if
he were a knight, and so he is. The other
hides as Saint George, when he saw the Dragon at his very
door) marcheth immediately up to the hall, where looking
after the good creature of the house, that looks but the bare
faint picture (for the picture of the house) that should be a Part
son of the house with him, he saw a picture in his eye
seemes to be a Gentleman like fellow: Of him he asks for
his good Knight, and he says that he is a Gentleman come
from London as a knight, which he must deliver to his own
Vile, and full Fare. As the picture does a noble Mount Dragon
after the Knight, and in encounter, and with this staffe does
he valiantly charge upon him.

How the Bird is Caught.

So I am a poor scholar, and the report of your virtues
hath made me your hearer, and I have been to fire your worthy
name as a scholar, for a long time with me, which here I
dedicate (out of my heart) to your noble and eternall Memory:
this is the first of my works.

The Hawking Rumpster is then bid to put on a lablest
the Maccabees Maccabees, opens a Booke fairly apparell'd in
yellow with gilt fillets, and long steeple like ribbon at least,
like a book of prayers on the back, a small page of Cattle hang-
ing down to the four corners, the title being superflui-
ally written, in the next lease he sees that the Author here, hath
made him one of his Collies, for the Booke carries his
title thus, and under it stands an Epistle to the
of the house of the house, which is the house of the
(a)

Whereunto is added, O per se O.

my Booke in conscience, unless the writer be understood to
 have thought being told before hand, that this is the first
 beame of the cether (which is the first beame of the first
 of) Stompe, waiting upon him in the out ward part, thanks
 him for his love and labour, and so turning with himselfe, what
 cost he hath been at, and how farre he hath labored, to come to
 him, he answers that Power and Goodness is more to you, that
 and let alke, and therefore to shew his good and tender
 love, he gives him more, of the same, in the same, and so
 to the breakfast, or if the fourteenth of the same, goes to
 towards eleven, then to the dinner.

But the fifth being caught by which the Helicopane Angler
 the fourth is a line with three or four longer, and being
 his alone hand he puts on the lower in the first, and the other
 (who all this while walked the jades, and travels up and
 downe with him like an undersetting Blower for halfe a shore)
 asks this question, how can you be so long, for the whole
 sharer and a halfe, and then replies the first, that he is not
 this net is under in the same to come, but some more, and so
 fine off, and it is nothing else but the next I shew you come
 to. But the Village into which they come, being able to
 maintaine an Jay with an Helicopane in the same, and so ad-
 vancing themselves into the forest of hunger, and so speaking
 the best cheere in the Towne for Dinner, before they sit and
 share befoze they speake of any thing else. That done, he that
 ventures upon all he meets, and discharges the Power of the
 (for to tell truth the other serves but as a signe, and is never up
 No-body) begins to discourse, how he serves himselfe in the
 action, how he was encountered, how he stood in his fishing,
 and how well he came off: he calls the second a Noble fellow,
 yet they both sing and laugh, and because they are glad they
 dance and sing.

How Birds
 are dressed
 after it by
 be thought.

Some shewes that they meet at the same length, the first
 first was of, and therefore there is a double full of a fine
 knots, that is to say, their Budget of Books is opened againe,
 to see what lease they are to have over next, which whilst
 they were doing, the O. I. that all this space haunted them,

and

The Bel-mans Night-walkes.

will be as when they had, having excellent skill in the stanch
 skill to take in picking of a stanch the most hidden-
 by a spear, which they had done, that at this strange en-
 trance they being sent to the light, began to shunne away their
 looks, but he knowing that where they were to shunne, offered to
 take them up the stairs by this backe: my counters
 (quoth he) I knowe where you have been, I knowe what you have
 done, I knowe your name, I knowe your house, I knowe your
 name, I knowe your name, I knowe your name, I knowe your name,
 and then he took up a stanch with
 which he took up the stanch in this Birding-piece, I will have
 the Village send for the knight whom you both you have gull'd
 and so disgrace you, for your money I care not.

The two Free-birds, seeing themselves snatched from their
 hands, either he desired to be a Gentleman and a good compa-
 nion, they would have therefore to it as well with France, and si-
 thence would have not yet ready, he should have all.

This new kind of Hawking (quoth one of them) which you
 see us the last time, is no more to be at it, viz.

1. The first is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

2. The second is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

3. The third is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

4. The fourth is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

5. The fifth is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

6. The sixth is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

7. The seventh is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

8. The eighth is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

9. The ninth is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

10. The tenth is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

11. The eleventh is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

12. The twelfth is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

13. The thirteenth is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

14. The fourteenth is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

15. The fifteenth is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

16. The sixteenth is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

17. The seventeenth is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

18. The eighteenth is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

19. The nineteenth is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

20. The twentieth is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

21. The twenty-first is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

22. The twenty-second is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

23. The twenty-third is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

24. The twenty-fourth is the Lure, which is the Paulconer.

Whereunto is added, O per se O.

inquiry, get the chiefest of them; printing off so many Epistles as they have names, the Epistles Dedicatorie being all one, and vary in nothing but in the Titles of their Patrons.

Having thus furnished themselves, and packed up their wares, away they trudge, like Winkers, with a Budget at one of their backs, or it may be the circle they are to conjure in, shall not be out of London, especially if it be Terme time, or when a Parliament is holden; (for then they have choice of sweete meates to feed upon.) If a Gentleman seeing one of these bookes Dedicated vnto his name, suspect it to be a bastard, that hath more Fathers besides himselfe, and to try that, does deferre the Presenter for a day or two, sending in the meane time (as some have done) into Pauls Church-yard amongst the Stationers, to inquire if any such worke be come forth, and if they cannot tell, then to step to the Printers: Yet haue the Falconers a trick to see beyond such Hawkes too, for all they spee to his, and that is this: The bookes lie all at the Printers, but not one line of an Epistle to any of them (these day-beetes lurke in Tenebris) if then the Spy that is sent by his Master, aske why they haue no Dedicatories to them: Monsieur Printer telle him, the Author would not venture to adde any to them all, (sparing onely to that which was giuen to his Master) untill it was knowne whether he would accept of it or no.

This satisfies the Patron; this fetches money from him, and this Cozens five hundred besides. Nay, there be other Bird-catchers, that use stranger quile-pipes: you shall haue fellows, foure or fife in a Company, that buying up any olde Booke, (especially a Sermon, or any other matter of Trinitie) that lies for waste-paper, and is cleane forgotten, and a new printed Epistle to it, and with an Alphabet of letters which they carry about them, being able to print any mans name (for a Dedication) on the hidden trauell up any of our most Nobles in England, and liue by this Hawking.

Are we not excellent Falconers now (quoth three halfe sharen:) excellent Villaines cryed the Doctors Deputie: by this the meate (for dinner came smocking in) upon which they sell

The *Belmans* Night-walkes.

most tyrannically, yet (for manners sake) offering first, to the Baliffe of Belzebub the upper end of the table; but he fearing they would make a Hawke or a Buzzard of him too, and report they had ridden him like an Asse, as they had done others, out a doores he flung with a vengeance as he came.

O sacred learning! why dost thou suffer thy seven leaved Tree, to be plucked by barbarous and most unhalloved hands: Why is thy beautifull garden-body polluted like a strumpets, and prostituted to beastly and slavish Ignorance: O you Basebroode, that make the Muses Harlots, yet say they are your Mothers: You Theeves of Wit, Cheaters of Art, Traytors of Schooles of Learning, murderers of Schollers: howe worthy you are, to undergoe the Romane Furca, like slaves, & to be byanded ith fore-head deeper then they that forge Testaments to undoe Diaphants: Such doe but rob children of goods that may bee lost: but you rob Schollers of their fame, which is dearer then life. You are not worth an Invection, not worthy to have your names droppe out of a deserving pen, you shall onely bee executed in Picture, (as they use to handle Malefactors in France) and the picture (though it were drawne to be hung up in another place) shall leave you impudently arrogant to your selves, and ignominiously ridiculous to after ages: in these colours are you drawne.

The true Picture of these Faniconers.

— There be Fellowes.

Of course and common blood; Mechanicke knaves,
Whose wits lye deeper buried then in graves:
And indeed smell more earthy, whose creation
Was but to give a Boote or Shoe good fashion.
Yet these (throwing by the Apron and the Awle)
Being drunke with their owne wit, cast up their gall
Onely of Inke: and in patchd, beggerly Rimes,
(As full of fowle corruption, as the Times)
From towne to towne they strowle, in soule as poore,
As th'are in cloathes: yet these at every doore,
Their labours Dedicate. But (as at Faïres)
Like Pedlers they shew still one sort of wares
Vnto all commers (with some filde oration)

And

Wherunto is added, *O per se O.*

And thus to give Bookes now's an occupation.
One Booke hath seven score Patrons; thus desert
Is cheated of her due; thus noble Art
Gives Ignorance (that common Strumpet) place
Thus the true Schollers name growes cheape and base, &c.

Of lacks of the Clock-house.

C H A P. V.

A new and cunning drawing of money from
Gentlemen.

There is another Fraternity of wandring Pilgrimes, who
merrily call themselves, Lacks of the Clock-house, and
are very neare allied to the Faulconers, that went a Hawking
befoze. The Clarke of Erebus set down their names too in his
Tables, with certain bryefe notes of their practises: and these
they are.

The Jacke of a Clocke-house goes vpon Screwes, and his
Office is to do nothing but strike: so does this noyse, (for
they walk up and down like ffolers) travaile with Motions,
and whatsoever their Motions get them, is called striking.

Those Motions are certain Collections, or witty Inuenti-
ons, sometimes of one thing, and then of another. And these
are fairely witten and ingrossed in Wellum, Parchment, or
Ropall Paper, richly adoyned with compartiments, and set out
with letters both in gold, and in various colours.

This labour being taken, the Master of the Motion hearkens
where such a Nobleman, such a Lord, or such a Knight lies,
that is liberall: having found one to his liking, The Motion
(with his Patrons name fairely tyed out, in manner of a De-
dication,) is presented befoze him: he receiues it, and thinking
it to be a work only undertaken for his sake, is bounteous
to the giuer, esteeming him a Scholler, and knowing that not
without great travaile, he hath drawn so many little strag-
gling Streames into so fair and smooth a River: whereas the
work is the labour of some other (copied out by stealth) by an
impudent ignorant fellow, that runnes up and down with
the Transcripts, and every Ale-house may have one of them

The Bel-mans Night-walkes.

hanging in the basest drinking roome) if they will be at the charges of wyting it out. Thus the liberality of a Nobleman, or of a Gentleman is abused: thus learning is brought into scozne and contempt: Thus men are cheated of their bounty, giving much for that (out of their free minds) which is common abroad, and put away for base prizes. Thus villany sometimes walkes alone, as if it were given to melancholly, and sometimes knaves tie themselves in a knot, because they may be more merry, as by a mad sort of Comrades whom I see leaping into the Saddle, anon it will appeare.

Ranke-riders.

C H A P. VI.

The manner of Cozening Inne-keepers, Post-masters, and Hackney-men.

There is a troope of Horsemen, that runne up and downe the whole Kingdome, they are ever in a gallop, their businesse is weighty, their journeyes many, their expences great, their Innes every where, their lands no where: they have onely a certaine Free-hold called Wyborne, (situate neere London, and many a faire paire of Gallowes in other Countreies besides,) upon which they live very poorly, till they dye, and die for the most part wickedly, because their lives are villanous and desperate. But what race soever they run, there they end it, there they set up their rest, there is their last bait, whether soever their journey lies. And these Horse-men have no other names but Ranke-Riders.

To furnish whom forth for any journey, they must have Riding suits cut out of these foure peeces.

1. The Inne-keeper, or Hackney-man of whom they have horses, is called a Colt.
2. He that never alights from a rich Farmer or Countrey Gentleman, till he have drawn money from him, is called the Snaffle.
3. The money so gotten, is the Ring.
4. He that feeds them with money, is called, the Provender.

The

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

These Ranke-riders (like Butchers to Runfords market) seldeome go without sixe or seven in a company, and these Carreers they fetch. Their purses being wondrously lined with some purchase gotten before, and they themselves well booted and spur'd, and in reasonable good out-sides, arrive at the fairest Anne they can chuse, either in Westminster, the Strand, the Citie, or the Suburbs.

Two of them who have cloasles a purpose to fit the Play, carrying the shew of Gentlemen, the other act their parts in blew-coats, as they were their serving-men, though indeed they be all Fellows. They enter all dirtied or dustied (according as it shall please the High-way to use them) and the first bydle they put into the Colts mouth (that is to say, the Anne-keepers) is at their coming in to aske aloud if the footman be gone backe with the horses: tis answered, yea. Were the Rank-Riders lye three or foure daies, spending moderately enough, yet abating not a penny of any reckoning, to the use of what house they come: in which space their counterfeitt followers learne what Countrey-man the master of the house is, where the Dillers and Chamberlaines were bozne, and what other Countrey Gentlemen are guests to the Anne: which lessons being presently gotten by heart, they fall into study with the generall rules of their knavery: and those are first to give out, that their Master is a Gentleman of such and such meanes, in such a Shire, which shall be sure to stand farre enough from those places (where any of the house or other guests were bozne) that he is come to receive so many hundred pounds upon land which he hath sold, and that he meanes to Anne there some quarter of a yeare at least.

The manner of bridling a colt.

This Brass money passing for currant through the house, he is more observed and better attended, is worshipped at every word: and the easier to bzeake and bydle the Colt, his Worship will not sit downe to Dinner or Supper till the Master of the house be placed at the upper end of the boord by him.

In the middle of Supper, or else very early in the following morning, comes in a counterfeitt footman, sweatingly delivering a message, that such a Knight hath sent for

The *Bel-mans* Night walkes.

the head-master of these Ranke-riders, and that he must be with him by such an houre, the journey being not above twelve or foureteen miles. Upon delivery of this message (from so deare and noble a friend) he swares and chafes, because all his horses are out of towne, curseth the sending of them back, offers any money to have himselfe, his couzen with him, and his men but reasonably horse. The host being a credulous Ass, suffers them all to get up upon him, for he provides them horses, either of his owne (thinking his Guest to be a man of great account, and being loath to lose him, because he spends well) or else sends out to hire them of his neighbours, passing his word for their forth-coming within a day or two. Up they get and away gallop our Ranke-riders, as farre as the poore Jades can carry them.

The two dayes being ambled out of the World, and perhaps three more after them, yet neither a supply of Horse-men or Footmen (as was promised) to be set eye upon. The lamentable Inn-keeper (or Hackney-man, if he chance to be Saddled for this Journey too) loose their Colts teeth, and find that they are made old arrant Jades: Search then runs up and down like a Constable halfe out of his wits (upon a Shrove-tuesday) and hue and cry follows after, some twelve or foureteen miles off, (round about London) which was the farthest of their journey as they give out. But (alas!) the horses are at pasture fourescore or a hundred miles from their old Spangers: they were sold at some blind drunken theebish Faire, (there being enow of them in company to save themselves, by their Toll-booke,) the Serving-men cast off their Blew coats, and cry, All fellowes: the money is spent upon Wine, upon Whores, upon Fiddlers, upon Fooles, by whom they will lose nothing) and the Tyde being at an ebbe, they are as ready to practise their skill in Horseman-ship to bring Colts to the Saddle in that Town, and to make Jags run a Race of threescore or a hundred miles off from that place, as before they did from London.

Whereunto is added, O per se 6

Running at the Ring.

Thus, so long as Horse-flesh can make them fat, they never leave feeding. But when they have beaten so many high-ways in severall Countries, that they feare to be overtaken by Tracers, then (like Souldiours coming from a Breach) they march faire and softly on foote, lying in Garrison: as it were, close in some out-towres; till the foule Rind of their Willamies (like a stonny durty Whiter) be blowne over: In which time of lurking in the shell, they are not idle neither; but like snailes, they venter abroad, though the Law hath threatned to raine downe never so much punishment upon them: and what do they? they are not Bees to live by their own painfull labors, but Drones that must eate up the sweetnesse, and be fed with the earnings of others: This therefore is their worke. They carelesly enquire what Gentleman of worth, or what rich Farmers dwell within five, or sixe, or seven miles of the Fort where they are inclosed, (which they may doe without suspicion) & having got their names, they single out themselves in a morning, and eachman takes a severall path to himselfe: one goes East, one West, one North and the other South, walking either in boots with hands in their hands, or otherwise, so it is all to one purpose. And note this by the way, that when they travell thus on foot, they are no more called Rank-Riders, but Scrowlers, a proper name given to Countrey Players, that (without Socks) trot from town to town upon the bare hooft.

Being arrived at the gate where the Gentleman or Farmer dwelleth, he boldly knocks, inquiring for him by name, and steps in to speak with him: the servant seeing a fashionable person, tels his Master there is a Gentleman desires to speak with him: the Master comes and salutes him, but cying him well, sayes he does not know him: So Sir, replies the other with a face bold enough, it may be so, but I pray you Sir, will you walk a turne or two in your Orchard or Garden, I would there confesse: Having got him thether, to this time he playes upon him.

How the Snaffle is put on.

Sir, I am a Gentleman, born to better meanes then my present fortunes do allow me: I served in the field, and had

The *Bel-mans* Night-walkes.

had command there. But long peace (you know Sir) is the
 Tanker that eat up Souldiers, and so it hath me. I lye here
 not farre off in the Countrey, at mine Inne, where staying
 upon the dispatch of some businesse, I am indebted to the house
 in monies, so that I cannot with the credit of a Gentleman
 leave the house till I have paid them. Pray me Sir, so much
 beholden to your love, as to lend me forty or fifty shillings to
 beare my horse and my selfe to London, from whence within a
 day or two, I shall send you many thanks, with a faithfull
 repayment of your curtesie.

The honest Gentleman, or the good natur'd Farmer be-
 holding a personable man, fashionably attired, and not ear-
 rying in outward colours, the face of a cogging knave, gives
 credit to his words, are sorry that they are not at this present
 time so well furnished as they could wish, but if a matter of
 twenty shillings can stead him, he shall command it, because it
 were pittie any honest Gentleman should for so small a mat-
 ter miscarry. Happily they meete with some Chap-men that
 give their stone asking: but howsoever, all is fish that comes
 to net, they are the most conscionable market folkes that e-
 ver rode betweene two paniers, for from forty they will fall
 to twenty, from twenty to tenne, from tenne to five: nay these
 Countibankes are so hale, that they are not ashamed to take
 two shillings of a plaine Husbandman, and sometimes five
 pence (which the other gives simply and honestly) of whom
 they demanded a whole fiftene.

In this manner doe they digge silver out of mens purses all
 the day, and at night meete together at the appointed Rande-
 vous, where all these Snaffles are loosed to their full length, the
 Rings which that day they have made are worn. The Provander
 is wasted or disposed, as they find it in goodness, but it goes
 downe all, whilest they laugh at all.

And thus does a Common beght bring up chlozen, that
 care not how they discredit her, or undoe her: who would ima-
 gine that Birds so faire in shew, and so sweete in voyce, should
 be so dangerous in condition: but Ravens thinke carryon the
 daintiest meate, and Villaines esteeme most of that money
 which is purchast by basenesse.

The

Wherunto is added, O per se O.

The Under-sheriffe for the County of Caecodemon, knowing into what arrerages these Ranke-riders were runne for bozlesse to his master, (of whom he farmed the office) sent out his wits to attack them, and so narrowly pursued them, that so; all they were in all bozst, some he sent post to the gallies, and the rest to severall Japles: After which, minding all the while hea possibly could to get to London againe, he was way layd by an army of a strong and new-found people.

Of Moone-men.

CHAP. VII.

A discovery of a strange wild people very dangerous to Townes and Country Villages.

A Moone-man, signifies in English a mad-man, because the spoon hath greatest domination above any other Planet) over the bodies of franticke persons. But these Moone-men (whose Images are now to be carved) are neither absolutely mad, nor yet perfectly in their wits. Their name they borrow from the spoon, because as the spoon is never in one shape two nights together, but wanders up and downe Heaven, like an Anticke, so these changeable stiffe-complexions never tarry one day in a place, but are the only, and the only base Rommages upon earth. And as in the spoon there is a man, that never stirs without a bush of thornes at his back, so these Moone-men lie under burthes, and are indeede no better then Hedge-creepers.

They are a people more scattered then Jewes, and more hated: beggerly in apparell, barbarous in condition, beastly in behaviour, and bloody if they meete advantage. A man that sees them would sweare they had all the yellow jaundies, or that they were Tawny spoones Walbards, for more. Oaker man carries a face of a more filthy complexion; yet are they not bozne so, neither hath the sunne burnt them so, but they are palated so, yet they are not good Palaters neither: for they do not make faces, but marre-faces. By a by-name they are called Gypsies, thy call themselves Egyptians, others in mockery call them Moone-men.

If they be Egyptians, sure I am they never descended from

The Belmans Night-walkes.

the Tribes of any of those people that came out of the Land of Egypt: Ptolomy (King of the Egyptians) I warrant never called them his subjects: no no; Pharao, before him. Look what difference there is betweene a Civil Citizen of Dublin, and a wild Irish Kerne; so much difference there is betweene one of these counterfeitt Egyptians, and a true English begger. An English Rogue is full of the same liberty.

His order
in marching
on foot or
serving up-
on horse.

They are commonly an Army about foure-score strong, yet they never march with all their bags and baggages together, but (like Boote-halers) they forage up and downe countries, 4, 5, or 6, in a company. As the Switzer has his wench and his Locke with him when he goes to the warres, so these bagabonds have their harlots, with a number of little ch:ldren following at their heeles: which pong brood of beggers, are sometimes carried (like so many green geese alive to a market) in paires of paniers, or in dollers like fresh-fish from Rye that comes on horsebacke, (if they be but infants.) But if they can straddle once, then as well the Ther-Rogues, as the bee-Rogues are horst, seven or eight upon one iade, strongly pinniond, and strangely tyed together.

Oneshire alone and no more is sure still at one time, to have these Egyptian lice swarming within it, for like flocks of wild-geese, they will evermore flye one after another: let them bee scattered worse then the quarters of a Traytor, are after bee's hang'd, d:ad and quartered, yet they have a trick (like water cut with a sword) to come together instantly and easily againe: and this is their policy. which way soever the foremost ranks lead, they stick up small boughes in severall places, to every village where they passe, which serve as ensignes to waite on the rest.

His furni-
ture.

Their apparrell is old, and phantasticke, though it bee never so full of rents; the men wear scarfes of Callis, or any other base stuf, hanging their bodies like Morris-dancers, with Belles, and other Toyes, to intise the Country people to flocke about them, and to wonder at their fooleries, or rather Rancke knaberies. The women as ridiculouslly attire themselves, and (like one that playes the Rogue on a Stage) wear rags, and patched filthy mantles upper-
most

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

most, when the under-garments are handsome and in fashion.

The battailes these Out-lawes make, are many and very His manner
bloudy. Whosoever falls into their hands never escapes alive, of fight.
and so cruell they are in these murtheres, that nothing can satisfie
them but the very heart bloud of those whom they kill. And
who are they (thinke you) that thus goe to the pot? Alas! In-
nocent Lambs, Sheep, Calves, Pigges, &c. Poultry-ware are
more charitably handled by them, then poore prisoners are by
keepers in the Counter itth Poultry. A Goose cunning a-
mongst them, learns to be wise, that she never will be Goose
any more. The bloudy Tragedies of all these, are onely acted
by the women, who carrying long knives or skeanes under
their spantles, do thus play their parts: The stage is some
large Heath, or a fire-bush Common, farre from any houses:
Upon which, casting themselves into a Ring, they inclose the
murdered, till the massacre be finished. If any Challenger come
by, and wondering to see such a Conjuring Circle kept by Hel-
hounds, and demand what spirits they raise there: one of the
Murderers steps to him, poisons him with sweet words, and
shifts him off, with this lye, that one of the women isaine in
Labour: but if any mad Hamlet hearing this, smels Aslaney,
and rush in by violence to see what the fawny Devils are do-
ing, then they excuse the fact, lay the blame on those that are
Actors, and perhaps (if they see no remedy) deliver them to an
Officer, to be had to punishment: but by the way a Rescue is
surely laid, and very valiantly (though very villanously) do they
fetch them off, and guard them.

The Cabbinets where these Land-Pyats lodge in the
night, are the Out-harnes of Farmers and Husbandmen (in
some poore Village or other) who dare not deny them, for
fearre they should ere morning have their thatched houses bur-
ning about their eares: in these Barnes, are both their Cook-
roomes, their Supping Parlours, and their Bed-chambers: for
there they dresse after a beastly manner, whatsoever they pur-
chase after a sheebish fashion: sometimes they eat Mutton,
and have Gray-hounds that kill it for them, but if they have
not, they are Hounds themselves, and are damnable Hunters
after flesh: Which appears by their ugly faced Dreams that

The Bel-mans Night walkes.

follow them, with whom in these barnes they lye, as I haue bee together in hogsties.

His quali-
ties whilst
he lies in-
trenched.

These Barnes are the beds of Incests, Whoredomes, Adulteries, and of all other black and deadly damned Impieties: Here growes the cursed Tree of Bastardy that is so fruitfull: here are written the Bookes of all Blasphemies, Swearings and Curses, that are so dreadfull to be read. Yet the simple Country people will come running out of their houses to gaze upon them, whilst in the mean time one scales into the next roome, and brings away whatsoever he can lay hold on. Upon dayes of pastime and liberty, they speare themselves in small companies amongst the Villages: and when young Spards and Watchers (yea sometimes old dotting Fooles, that should be beaten to this world of Williames, and forwarne others) do flock about them, they then professe skill in Vaine-ty, and (forsooth) can tell Fortunes, which for the most part are infallibly true, by reason that they work upon rules which are grounded upon certainty: for one of them will tell you that you shall shortly haue some evil luck fall upon you, and within halfe an houre after you shall haue your pocket pick'd, or your purse cut. These are those Egyptian Grasshoppers that eat up the fruits of the earth, and destroy the poore Corn fields: to sweep these swarmes out of this Kingdome, there are no other meanes but the sharpnesse of the most infamous and basest kinde of punishment. For if the ugly body of this spawler be suffered to grow and fatten it selfe with mischiefs and disorder, it will haue a neck so sinewy and so strong, that the arme of the Law will haue much ado to strike off the head, sithence every day the members of it increase, and it gathers new joints, and new fingers, by Priggers, Anglers, Cheaters, Morts, Potions, Daughters (that haue taken some by bloues, and to a vopde shame, fall into their limes) and other seruants both upon and vnder, that haue been Whippers, with all the rest of that damned Regiment, marching together in the first Army of the Bel-man, who mowing stumpe from their own colours (which are bad enough) serue vnder these being the worst. Luters Lansprizado that stand aloofe to behold the sufferings of these Hell-hounds tooke delight

What pie-
ces of de-
perate ser-
vice he ven-
tures upon.

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

Delight to see them double their *styles* so manly, but held it no policy to come neere them (for the Deuill himselfe durst scarce have done that.) Away therefore he gallops, knowing that at one time or other, they would all come to fetch their pay where it was due.

The infection of the Suburbs.

C H A P. VIII.

The Infernall Promoter being wearied with riding up and down the Country, was glad when he had gotten the City over his head, but the City being not able to hold him within the Freedome, because he was a Forreiner, the gates were set wide open for him to passe through, and into the Suburbs he went. And what saw he there

He saw the doores of notorious Carted Baydes (like Bell gates) stand night and day wide open, with a paire of Harlots in Taffata Gownes (like two painted posts) garnishing out those doores, being better to the house then a double signe: when the doore of a poore Artificer (if his child had dyed but without one Token of death about him) was close rammed up and Guarded, for feare others should have been infected: Yet the Plague that a Whore-house layes upon the City is worse, yet is laughed at: if not laughed at, yet not looked into; or if looked into, winked at.

The Tradesman having his house locked up, looeth his Customers, is put from work, and is undone: whilst in the meane time the Satcrumpet is set on work and maintained (perhaps) by those that undo the other: give thanks, O wide mouth'd Hell! laugh Lucifer at this, dance for joy all you Devils.

Belzebub keeps the Register booke of all the Rascals, Rascals and Cartizans: and he knowes that these Rascals haue no lands to live upon but their legges: every Rascal passing by them, can say, there sits a Whore: Without putting them to their booke, they will sweare so much themselves: if so, are not Constables Church-wardens, Wardens, Beadles, and other Officers, Justices and Villagers to all the Villages, that are by these committed, And they not partell Rascals to wink

The Bel-mans Night walkes.

at such damnable abuses, considering they have whips in their own hands, and may draw blood if they please: Is not the Land-loyd of such Rents, the Graund Barde: and the dooze-keeping Mistresse of such a house of sinne, but his under Barde, sithence he take a twenty pounds rent every yeare, for a vaulting-schoole (which from no Artificer living by the hardnesse of the hand could be worth a be pound,) And that twenty pound rent, he knowes must be prest out of petticoates: his money smells of sinne, the very silver looks pale, because it was earned by lust.

How happy therefore were Cities if they had no Suburbs, sithence they serue but as Caves, where Monsters are bred up to devour the Cities themselves: Would the Deuill hire a villaine to spill blood: there he shall find him. One to blaspheme: there he hath choice. A Bander that would court a Patron at her prayers: he is there. A Chatey that would turne his own father a begging: he is there too. A Harlot that would murder her new-boyn Infant: she lies in there.

What a wretched womb hath a Strumpet, which being (for the most part) barren of children, is not withstanding the onely Bed that breeds up these Serpents: upon that one stalk grow all these mischiefs, Shee is the Cockatrice that hatcheth all these Eggs of evils. When the Deuill takes the Anatomy of all damnable sins, he looks onely upon her body. When she dyes, he sits as her Coroner. When her soule comes to hel, all shun that there, as they flie from a body struck with the Plague. Here she hath her dooze-keeper, and she her selfe is the devils chamber-maid. And yet for all this, that shee's so dangerous & detestable, when she hath croak'd like a Raben on the Trees, then comes she into the house like a Dove. When her villanies (like the mote about a Castle) are ranke and thick, and muddy with standing long together, then (to purge her selfe) is she dyemed out of the Suburbs (as though her corruption were there left behind her) and (as cleare as stream) is let into the City.

What armour a Harlot weares coming out of the Suburbs to besiege the City within the walls.

Vpon what perch then does she sit: what part playes she then: only the Puritane. If before she rustled in silkes,

Whereunto is added, O per se O

now she is more civilly attired then a Whore. If before shee swaggered in Tabernes, now with the Snake, she stirreth not out of doores. And where must her lodging be taken up, but in the house of some Citizen, whose knowne reputation she borrowes (or rather steals,) putting it on as a cloake to cover her deformities. Yet even in that, hath she an Art too, so she shall be of such a profession, that all comers may enter, without the danger of any eyes to watch them. As for example, she will lie at some Scriveners house, and so under the colour of comning to have a Bond made, she her selfe may write *Verit universi*.

And though the Law threaten to hit her never so often, yet hath she subtile defences to ward off the blows. For, if Gallants haunt the house, then shee spreads she these colours: there is a Captaine, or a Lieutenants wife in the Low-countries, and they come with Letters, from the souldier her husband. If Marchants resort to her, then hoists she up these sailes, she is wife to the Master of a Ship, and they bring newes that her husband put in at the Straites, or at Venice, at Alepo, Alexandria, or Scanderoon, &c. If shoppe-keepers come to her, with what doe you lacke in their mouthes, then she takes up such and such commodities, to send them to Rie, to Wythow, to Porke, &c. where her husband dwells. But if the streams of her fortunes runne low, and that none but Apron-men launch forth there, then keeps she a politike sempsters shop, or she starches them.

Perhaps she is so politicke, that none shall be noted to board her: if so, then she sayles upon these points of the Compasse, so soone as ever she is rigg'd, and all her furniture on, forth she launcheth into those streets that are most frequented: where the first man that she meets of her acquaintance, shall (without much pulling) get her into a Taberne: out of him she kisses a breakfast, and then leaves him: the next she meets, does upon as easie pillies, draw her to a Taberne againe, out of him she cogs a dinner, and then leaves him: the third man Squires her to a play, which being ended, and the Wine offered and taken (for she's no Recusant, to refuse any thing) him she leaves too: and being set upon by a fourth,

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him shee answers at his owne weapon. says wth him, and drinks Vpsie Freeze, till the clocke striking Twelue, and the Drums being drump, wth they march arme in arme bring at every foot-step fearfull to be set upon by the Band of Halberdiers, that lye scowling in rag-gowres to cut off such midnight stragglers. But the word being given, and who goes there, with come before the Constable, being shot at them, they haile presently and come, she taking upon her to answer all the Bilmen and their Leader. Betwixt one whom and her, suppose you heare this sleepey Dialogue, where have you bin so late & at supper forsooth with my Vncle here, (if he be well bearded) or with my brother (if the haire be but budding forth) and he is bringing me home. Are you married & yes forsooth: what is your husband? such a Noble-mans man, or such a Iustices Clark: (And then names some Alderman of London, to whom shee perswades her selfe, one or other of the bench of browne billes are beholding:) where lye you? At such a mans house: *Sic scindes euasit in Auras*: And thus by stopping the Constables mouth wth sugar plumes (that is to say,) whilst she payson him wth sweete words, the drunkie vanisheth. O Lanthorne and Candle-light, be w^{ar}t thou made a blind Ass: because thou hast but one eye to see withall: Be not so guld, bee not so dull in understanding: doe thou but follo w aloose those two faine pigeons, and thou shalt find, that her new Vncle lies by it all that night, to make his kins-woman one of mine Aunts: or if shee be not in travail all night, they spend some halfe an houre together: but what do they? marry they do that which the Constable should haue done for them both in the streets, that is to say, commit, commit.

You Guardians ouer so great a Princesse as the eldest daughter to King Brutus: you twice twelve Fathers and Goernors ouer the noblest Citie, why are you so careful to plant trees to beautifie your outward walks, yet suffer the goodliest garden (within) to bee over-runne with stinking weedes: You are the pruning knives that should loppe off such idle, such unprofitable, and such destroying branches from the vine: The beames of your authority should purge the ayre of such infection: your breath of Justice should scatter those foggy vapours,

and

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

and drive them out of your Gates, as Chaffe tossed abroad by the winds.

But stay, is your walking spirit become an Orator to persuade: no: but the Bel-man of London, with whom he met in this perambulation of his, and to whom he betrayed himselfe, and opened his very bosome, (as hereafter you shall heare) is bold to take upon him the Speakers Office.

Of Gingers.

C H A P. IX.

Of the knavery of Horse-courfers in Smith-field discovered.

AT the end of fierce Battalles, the onely Randevouz for lame souldiers to retire unto, is an Hospitall: and at the end of a long Progresse, the onely ground for a tyred Jads to run in, is some blind Countrey Faire, where he may be sure to be sold. To these markets of unwholesome Horse-flesh, (like so many Bites to feed upon Carrion) do all the Horse-courfers (that Roost about the Citie) flie one after another. And whereas in buying all other Commodities, men strive to have the best, how greatsoever the price be, onely the Horse-courfer is of a baser mind, for the worst Horse-flesh (so it be cheap) does best go down with him. He cares for nothing but a fair outside, and a handsome shape (like those that hire Whores) though there be an hundred diseases within: he (as the other) ventures upon them all.

The first Lesson therefore that a Horse-courfer takes out, when he comes to one of these markets, is to make choice of such Hags, Geldings, or Mares, especially, as are fat, faire, and well-favoured to the eye: and because men delight to behold beautifull colours, are more delicate (even in beasts) then others are, he will so neere as he can, bargain for those Horses that have the daintiest complexion: as the Milk-white, the Gray, the Dapple-Gray, the Cole-black, with his proper sparks, as the white star in the fore-head, the white-beele, &c.) Or the bright-Bay, with the like proper marks also. And

G

the

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the goodlier proportion the beast carries, or the fairer sparks or colour that he bears, are, or ought to be watch-words, as it were to him that afterwards buyes him of the Horse-courser, that he be not couzened with an over-price for a bad penny-worth, because such horses (belonging for the most part to Gentlemen) or seldome or never sold away, but upon some foule quality, or some incurable disease, which the beast is false into. The best colours are therefore the best Cloaks to hide those faults that most disfigure a Horse: and next unto colour: his pace doth oftentimes deceive and go beyond a very quick judgment.

Some of these Horse-hunters, are as nimble Knaves in finding out the Infirmities of a Jade, as a Barber is in drawing of teeth: and albeit (without casting his water) he does more readily reckon up all the Aches, Crampes, Cricks, and whatsoever disease else lies in his bones: and for those diseases seems utterly to dislike him, yet if he by looking upon the Dyall within his mouth, find that his years have struck but five, six, or seven: and that he proves but young, or that his diseases are but newly growing upon him, if they be outward, or have but haire and skin to hide them, if they be inward, let him swear never so damnably, that it is but a Jade, yet he will be sure to fasten upon him.

The picture
of a Horse-
courser.

So then, a Horse-courser to the Merchant, (that out of his sound judgement buys the sayest, the best-bred, and the noblest horses, selling them again for breed or service, with plainnesse and honesty,) is as the Cheator to the faire Gamester: he is indeed a meer Jewish Monopolitane, and deals for none but tyred, tainted, dull and diseased horses. By which meanes, if his Picture be drawn to the life, you shall find every Horse-courier, for the most part, to be in quality a Cozener, by profession a Knave, by his cunning a Wharlet, in faires a haggling Chapman, in the City a robbing Dissembler, and in Smithfield a common forsworn Villain. He will swear any thing but the faster he swears, the more danger 'tis to beleve him: In one forsoone, and in selling a Jade not worth five Nobles, will he forswear himselfe fifteen times, and that forswearing too, shall be by Equivocation. As for example, if

Whereunto is added, *O per se* O.

It an ignorant Chapman coming to beate the price, say t^o the Horie-courser your Page is very olde, or thus many yeeres old, and reckon ten or twelbe: he claps his hand presently on the buttock of the beast, and prapes he may be dam'd if the horse be not under fife, meaning that the horse is not under fife yeeres of age, but that he stands under fife of his fingers, when his hand is clapt upon him. These Horie-courfers are called Iynglers, and these Iynglers having layde out their money on a company of Jades, at some drunken faire, up to London they drible them, and upon the Market day into Smithfield bravely come they prancing. But lest their Jades should shew too many horse-tricks in Smithfield, befoze so great an Audience as commonly resort thither, their Masters doe therefore Schoole them at home after this manner.

*How a Horse-courser workes upon a Iade in his owne Stable,
to make him serviceable for a courening Race
in Smithfi:ld.*

The Glanders in a horse is so filthy a disease, that he who is troubled with it can never keep his nose clean: so that when such a foul nosed Iade happens to serve a Horse-courser, he hath moze strange pills (then a Apothecary makes) for the purging of his head: he knowes that a horse with such a qualitie, is but a beastly companion to travell upon the highway with any Gentleman.

*How a
horse cour-
ser may
cousen his
chapman
with a
horse that
hath the
Glanders.*

Albeit therefore, that the Glanders have played with his nose so long that he knowes not how to mend himselfe, but that disease being suffered to run upon him many yeeres together is growne invincible, yet hath our Jugling Spoutibanke Smithfield-rider, a trick to cure him, fife or six wayes: and this is one of them.

In the very morning when he is to be riled away amongst the Gamsters in Smithfield, befoze he thrust his head out of his Masters stable, the Horse-courser tickles his nose (not with a pipe of Tobacco) but with a good quantitie of the best sneezing powder that can be gotten: which with a quill being blown up into the Nostrils, to make it worke the bet-

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ter, he stands poaking there up and down with two long feathers plucked from the wing of a Goose, they being dypt in the iuyce of Garlick, or in any strong oyle, and thrust up to the very top of his head so farre as possible they can reach, to make the pooze dumbe beast aboyde the filth from his nostrils, which he will doe in great aboundance: this being done, he comes to him with a new medicine for a sicke horse, and mingling the iuyce of brused Garlick, sharp byting Mustard, and strong Ale together, into both the nostrills (with a Horne) is powred a good quantitie of this filthy Broath, which by the hand being held in by stopping the nostrills close together, at length with a little neezing more, his nose will be cleaner then his Masters the Horse-courser, and the filth be so artificially stop't, that for eight or ten houres a Jade will hold up his head with the proudest Gelding that gallops scornefully by him, and never have need of wiping.

This is one of the Comedies, a Common Horse-courser playes by himselfe at home; but if when he comes to acte the second part abroad, you would disgrace him, and have him hissed at for not playing the Knave well, then handle him thus: If you suspect that the Pagge which he would Jade you with, be troubled with that or any other such like disease, gripe him hard about the welsand pipe, close toward the roote of the tongue, and holding him there so long and so forcibly, that he cough twice or thrice, if then (after you let goe your hold) his chappes begin to walk, as if he were chewing down a horse-loafe, shake hands with old Monsieur Cavilero Horse-courser, but clap no bargaine upon it, for his Jade is as full of infirmity, as the Master of *Villante*.

*Other Gambals that Horse-courfers practise upon Foundred
Horses, old Jades, &c,*

S Mith-field is the Stage upon which the Mountibanke English Horse-courser advancing his Banner, defies any disease that dares touch his Brancer: insomuch that if a Horse be sold, as that foure legges can but carry him, yet shall he beare the marks of a Pagge not above sixe or seven yeeres of age: and that counterfeit badge of youth, he weares thus: the

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

the Horse-courser with a small round yron made very hot, burnes two black holes in the top of the two outmost teeth of each side, the outside of the horse mouth upon the nether teeth, and so likewise of the teeth of the upper chap, which stand opposite to the nether, the qualittle of which markes, is to shew that a horse is but young: but if the Jade be so olde, that those teeth are dropt out of his head, then is there a trick still to be fumbling about his olde chaps, and in that stroaking his chin, to prick his lippes closely with a pin, or a nayle, till they be so tender, that albeit he were a given horse, none could be suffered to looke him in the mouth: (which is one of the best Calenders to tell his age) but a reasonable sighted eye (without helpe of spectacles) may easily discover this tugging, because it is grosse and common.

If now a Horse (having been a soze Traveller) happen by falling into a cold sweat to be foundred, so that (as if he were drunke, or had the staggers) he can scarce stand on his legges, then will his master, before he enter into the liffes of the field against all corners, put him into a villanous chafing, by riding him up and downe, a quarter or halfe an houre, till his lumbes be thoroughly heates; and this he does, because so long as he can discharge that false fire, or that (being so collicrickly hot) he tramples onely upon soft ground, a very cunning Horie man shall hardly finde where his shooe tuzings him, or that he is Foundred. And (to blind the eyes of the Chapman) the Horse-courser will be ever tickling of him with his wand because he may not by standing still like an Asse, shew of what house he comes.

If a Horse come into the fielde (like a lame Souldier) halting, he has not Crutches made for him, as the Souldier hath, but because you shall thinke the Horses shoomaker hath served him like a Jade, by not fitting his foot well, the shooe shall be taken off purposely from that foot which halts, as though it had been lost by chance: and to prove this, witness shall come in, if at last twenty or thirty damnable oathes can be taken, that the want of the Shooe is onely the cause of his halting. But if a horse cannot be lusty at legs, by reason that either his hoofes be not good, or that there be Splents, or any other

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other Eye-sore about the nether joynt, the Horie-courser uses him then as Cheating Swaggers handle Novices, what they cannot win by Dice, they will have by soule play: and in that soule manner, deales he wth the pooze horse, riding him up and downe in the thickest and the dirtiest places, till that dart, like a rusted boote dyatome upon an ill labour'd govt leg, cover the Jades infirmitie from the eye of the buyer.

*How a Horse-courser makes a Iade that has no stomacke,
to eat Lamb-pye.*

Albett Lamb-pye be good meat upon a table, yet it is so offensiue to a Horses stomacke, that he had rather be fed a moneth together with mustie Dates, then to taste it: Yet are not all Horses bidden to this Lamb-pye Breakfasts, but onely such as are dieted with no other meate: and those are Dull, Blockish, Sullen, and heauy-footed Jades. Whensoever therefore a Horse-courser hath such a dead commoditie, as a Lumpish slow Iade, that goes more heauy then a Cow when she frots, and that neither by a sharp bit, nor a tickling spurre he can put him out of his lazie and dogged pace, what does he wth him then? Daely he giues him Lamb-pye. What is to say, every morning when the Horie-courser comes into the Stable, he takes up a tough round cudgell, and neuer leaues fencing with his quarter-staffe at the pooze Hories sides and buttocks, till with blows he hath made them so tender, that the very shaking of a bough will be able to make the Horse ready to run out of his wits. And to keepe the horse still in this made mood, because he shall not forget his lesson, his Master will neuer come neer him, but h2 will haue a sling at him. If he doe but touch him, he strikes him, if he speaks to him, there is but a word and a blow: if he do but look upon him, the horse flings and takes on, as though he would break through the walles, or had beene a Horse byed up in Bedlam amongst mad folkes. Having thus gotten this hard lesson by heart, soyth comes he into Smithfield, to repeate it; where the Rider shall no sooner leap into the saddle, but the Horie-courser giuing the Iade (that is halfe scarred out of his wits already) thre or foure good bangs, away flies Bucephalus as

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

if young Alexander were upon his back, no ground can hold him, no hyde rain him in, he gallops away as if the Devil had hired him of some Hackney-man, and scuds through thick and thin, as if Crackers had hung at his heels. If his Tayle play the wag, and happen to whisk up and down (which is a signe that he does his Feats of Activity, like a Tumblers Pen-tise) by compulsion, and without taking pleasure in them, then shall you see the Horse-courier lay about him like a Thresher, till with blowes he make him carry his Tayle to his Buttocks: which in a Horse (contrary to the nature of a Dog) is an argument that he hath mettall in him and spirit, as in the other it is the note of Cowardize.

These and such other base Juglings are put in practise, by the Horse-courier; in this manner comes he armed into the field: with such bad and deceitfull Commodities does he furnish the Markets. Neither steps he upon the Devils Stage alone, but others are likewise Actors in the selfe-same Scen, and sharers with him, for no sooner shall money be offered for a Horse, but presently one Snake thrusts out his head, and stings the buyer with false prayles of the Horses goodnesse: Another throwes out his poisoned hook, and whispers in the Chapmans eare, that upon his knowledge so much, or so much hath been offered by four or five, and would not be taken: and of these Ravens there be sundry nests, but all of them as black in soule as the Horse-courier (with whom they are yoked) is in conscience. This Regiment of Horsemen, is therefore divided into four Squadrons, (viz.)

1. When Horse-couriers travell to Country Faires, they are called *Lynglers*.

2. When they have the leading of the Horse, and serve in *Smithfield*, they are *Drovers*.

3. They that stand by and conny-catch the Chapman, either with Out-biddings, false-prayles, &c. are called *Goads*.

4. The hoves, striplings, &c. that have the riding of the Jades up and down, are called *Skip-jacks*.

of

The *Bel-mans* Night walkes.

Of lacke in a Boxe.

C H A P. X.

Of a new kind of Cheating, teaching how to change gold into silver; unto which is added a Map, by which a man may learne how to travell over all England, and have his charges borne.

How many Trees of Evill are growing in this Countrey, how tall they are, how mellow is their fruit, and how greedily gathered, so much ground do they take up, and so thickly do they stand together, that it seemeth a Kingdome can bying forth no more of their nature: yes, yes, there are not halfe so many Rivers in Hell, in which a soule may saile to Damnation, as there are black streames of Mischiefs and Willany, (besides all those which in our now two Voyages we have ventured so many leagues up, for discovery) in which, thousands of people are continually swimming, and every minute in danger utterly to be cast away.

Abuses of
Race running
glanced at.

The Horse-courser of Hell, after he had durted himselfe with riding up and down Smithfield, and having his beast under him, gallopped away again to behold a Race of five miles by a couple of Running Horses, upon whose swiftnesse great summes of money were laid in Wagers. In which Schoole of Horse-man-ship (wherein for the most part none but Gallants are the Students) he construed but strange Lectures of Abuses: he could make large Comments upon those that are the Runners of those Races, and could teach others how to lose forty, or fifty pound politickly in the forenoone, and in the afternoone (with the selfe-same Gelding) to win a thousand Marks in five or six miles riding. He could tell how Gentlemen are fetched in, and made Younger Brothers, and how your new Knight comes to be a Cousen of this Race. He could draw the true Pictures of some fellows, that dyet these Running-Horses: who for a Bribe of forty shillings, can by a false Dye, make their own Masters loose a hundred pound a Race. He could shew more crafty Foxes in
this

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

this wild-goose chase, then there are white Foxes in Russia, and moze strange Horse-tricks playd by such Riders, then Bankes his curtall did ever practise (whose gambals of the two were the honestest.)

But because this sort of Birds have many feathers to loose befoze they can feel any cold, he suffers them to make their owne flight, knowing that prodigals doe but test at the stripes which other mens roddees give them, and never complaine of smarting, till they be whipt with their owne.

In every corner he did finde Serpents ingendring: under every roose some impiety or other lay breeding: but at last perceiving that the most part of men were by the sorcery of their owne devilish conditions, transformed into Wollues, and being so changed, were moze brutish and bloody then these that were Wollues by nature: his spleene leaped against his ribs with laughter, and in the height of that joy, resolved to write the villanies of the Wollwd in Folio, and to dedicate them in private, to his Lord and master, because he knew him to be an open handed Patron, albeit he was no great lover of Schollers.

But having begun one picture of a certaine strange beast, (called Lacke in a Boxe) that onely (because the City had given money already to see it) he finished: and in these colours was Lacke in a Boxe painted. It hath the head of a man, (the face well bearded) the eyes of a Hawke, the tongue of a Lapwing, which sayes here it is, when the nest is a good way off: it hath the stomacke of an Estrich, and can digest althor, as easily as that bird doth yron. It hath the paws of a Beare in stead of hands, so: whatsoever it fasteneth upon, it holds: from the middle down-wards, it is made like a Grayhound, and is so swift of foot, that if it once get the start of you, a whole Kennell of Hounds cannot overtake it. It loves to hunt dy-foot, and can sent a Traine in no ground so well as the City, and yet not in all places of the City. But he is best in Senting betwene Ludgate and Temple-barre: and it is thought that his next hunting shall be between Lamberd-strext and the Gold-Smiths Row in Cheapside. Thus much for his outward parts, now you shall have him whipt and see his inward.

This Lacke in a Boxe, or this Dwarf in mans shape, wear-

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ring (like a player on a stage, good clothes on his backe) comes to a Goldsmiths Stall, to a Drapers, a Habberdashers, or into any other shop, where he knowes good store of silver faces are to be seen. And there drawing forth a faire new boze, hammered all out of Silver plate, he opens it, and poyzes forth twenty or forty Twenty-shillings pieces in new Gold. To which heap of wooldy temptation, thus much he addes in words, that either he himselte, or such a Gentleman (to whom he belongs) hath an occasion for foure or fife dayes to use forty pound. But because he is very shortly, (may he knowes not how suddenly) to travaile to Venice, to Ierusalem, or so, and would not willingly be dis furnished of Gold, he doth therefore request the Citizen to lend (upon these Forty twenty-shilling-pieces) so much in white money (but for foure, or fve, or fve dayes at the most) and for his good will he shall receive any reasonable satisfaction. The Citizen (knowing the promise to be better then a Bond) poyzeth down forty pound in silver: the other drawes it, and having so much gold in hostage, marcheth a way with Bag and Baggage.

Five dayes being expired, Lacke in a Boxe (according to his bargain) being a man of his word, comes againe to the shop or stall, (at which he Angles for fresh fish) and there casting out his line with a silver hook, that is to say, poyzing out the forty pound which he borrowed. The Citizen sends in, or steppes himselfe for the Boxe with the Golden Divell in it: it is opened, and the army of Angels being mustered together, they are all found to be there. The Boxe is shut againe and set on the stall, whilest the Citizen is telling of his money: But whilest the musike is sounding, Lacke in a Boxe ades his part in a dumbe shew thus; he shifts out of his fingers another Boxe of the same mettall and making, that the former beares, which second Boxe is filled only with shillings, and being poised in the hand, shall seeme to carry the weight of the former, and is clap'd downe in place of the first. The Citizen in the mean time (whilest this sort-sall is made for him) telling the forty pounds, misleth thirty or forty shillings in the whole summe, at which the Lacke in a Boxe starting backe (as if it were a matter strange unto him) at last (making a gathering

Whereunto is added, *O per se O*.

thoring with his himselfe for his wits) he remembers, he saies, that he laid by so much money as is wanting (of the forty pounds) to dispatch some business or other, and forgot to put it into the Bag again; notwithstanding, he entreats the Citizen to keep his Gold still, he will take the white money home to fetch the rest, and make up the summe, his absence shall not be above an houre or two: before which time he shall be sure to heare of him, and with this the little Devill banisheth, carrying that away with him, which in the end will send him to the Gallies, (that is to say, his own Gold) and forty pounds besides of the Shop-keepers, which he borrowes, the other being glad to take forty shillings for the whole debt, and yet is soundly hurt for his labour.

This Jacke in a Boxe, is yet but a Chicken, and hath laid very few Eggs; if the Hungarians do not spoyle it with treading, it will prove an excellent Hen of the Game. It is a knot of Cheats, but newly tyed, they are not yet a Company. They flye not like Wild-Geese (in flocks) but like Kites (single) as loth that any should share in their prey. They have two or three names, (yet they are no Romans, but errant Rogues) for sometimes they call themselves Jacke in a Boxe, but now that their infantry grows strong, and that it is known abroad, that they carry the Philosophers stone about them, and are able of forty shillings to make forty pounds, they therefore use a dead sparck, and the better to cloake their villanies, do put on these Masking suits.

1. This Art or sleight of changing gold into silver, is called Trimming.

2. They that practise it, terme themselves Sheep-shearers.

3. The Gold which they bring to the Citizen, is called Jasons Fleece.

4. The silver which they pick up by this murthering, is White-wool.

5. They that are Cheats by Jacke in a Boxe, are called Bleaters.

O Fleet-street, Fleet-street! how hast thou been trimm'd, washed, shaven and polde by these deare and damnable Barbers: how often hast thou met with these Sheepshears,

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chers? how many warm Fleeces of Wooll have they pulled from thy back; yet if thy Bleating can make the Flocks that graze neer unto thee, and round about thee, to lift up their eyes, and to shun such Wolves and Foxes, when they are approaching, or to have them worried to death, before they suck the bloud of others, thy misfortunes are the lesse, because thy neighbours by them shall be warned from danger.

Amy of thy Gallants (of Fleet-street) have spent hundreds of pounds in thy presence, and yet never were so much as drunk for it: but for every forty pound that thou layest out in this Indian Commodity (of Gold) thou hast a Silver Box bestowed upon thee, to carry thy Tobacco in, because thou hast ever loved that costly and Gentleman-like Smoke. Jacke in a Boxe hath thus played his part. There is yet another Actor to step upon the Stage, and he seems to have good skill in Cosmography, for he holds in his hand a Map, wherein he hath layd down a number of Shires in England, and with small pycks hath beaten out a path, teaching how a man may easily (though not very honestly) travell from Country, to Country, and have his charges boyn: and thus it is.

He that undertakes this strange journey, lapes his first plot how to be turned into a Brave man, which he finds, can be done by none better then by a trusty Taylor: working therefore hard with him, till his suite be granted. Out of the City, being mounted on a good Gelding, he rides upon his own bare credit, not caring whether he travell to meet the Sun at his Rising, or at his going down. He knowes his Kitching smokes in every Countrey, and his Table is covered in every Shire. For when he comes within a mile of a Town, where he means to catch Quails, setting spurs to his Horse, alway he gallops, with his Cloak off (for in these Beliegings of Towns he goes not armed with any) his hat thrust into his Bosse, as if it were lost; and onely an empty paire of Hangers by his side, to shew that he had been disarmed. And you may note, that this Hot-Spur does never set upon any places but onely such, where he knowes (by intelligence) there are store of Gentlemen, or wealthy Farmers at the least. Amongst whom, when he is come, he tels with distracted looks, and a voyce almost breath-
leste,

How to
travaile
without
charges.

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

lesse, how many Villains set upon him, what Gold and Silver they took from him, what Woods they are fled into, from what part of England he is come, to what place he is going, how farre he is from home, how farre from his iourneies end, or from any Gentleman of his acquaintance, and so lively personates the lying Greek Synon, in telling a lamentable Tale, that the mad Trojans (the Gentlemen of the Towne, beleiving him, and the rather because he carries the shape of an honest man in the w, and of a Gentleman in his apparell) are liberall of their Purses, lending him money to beare him on his journey, to pay which he offers either his Bill or Bond (naming his Lodging in London) or gives his word, as he is a Gentleman, which they rather take, knowing the like misfortune may be theirs at any time.

And thus with the Feathers of other Birds, is this Monster stuck, making wings of sundry fashions, with which he thus basely flies over a whole Kingdome. Thus doth he ride from Towne to Towne, from City to City, as if he were a Landlord in every Shire, and that he were to gather Rents up of none but Gentlemen.

There is a Twin-brother to this False-galopper, and he cheats Inne-keepers onely, or their Tapsters, by learning first what Countrey men they are, and of what kindred: and then hanging counterfeit Letters of commendations from such an Uncle, or such a Cousen (wherein is requested, that the Receiver thereof may be used kindly) he lies in the Inne till he have fetcht over the Master or servant for some money, to which whom to him, he hath many hookes, and when they hang fast enough by the gills, under water Our Sharke Dives, and is never seen again to swimme in that River.

Upon this Scaffold also might be mounted a number of Travelling Quack-salving Empericks, who arriving in some Countrey Empericks Towne, clap up their Terrible Bills, in the Market place, and filling the Paper with such horrible names of Diseases, as if every disease were a Divell, and that they could conjure them out of any Towne at their pleasure. Yet these Beggerly Mountebanks are meer Conjurers, and have not so much skill as Hoole-leeches. The poore people not giving money to them

The Bel-mans Night walkes.

to be cured of any infirmities, but rather with their money buying woyle infirmities of them.

Strowling
Schoole-
masters.

Upon the same Post, do certain stragling Scribling Writers: deserue to haue both their names and themselves hanging up, instead of those fair Tables which they hang up in Townes, as gay Pictures to entice Schollers to them: the Tables are written with sundry kinds of hands, but not one finger of those hands (not one Letter there) drops from the Pen of such a false wandring Scribe. He buyes other mens cunning good cheap in London, and sels it dear in the Countrey. These Swallowes bag of no quality in them, so much as of swiftnesse. In foure and twenty houres, they will work foure and twenty wonders, and promise to teach those, that know no more what belongs to an A, then an Ase, to be able in that narrow compassse) to write as faire, and as fast as a Countrey Vicar, who commonly reads all the Townes Letters.

But wherefoze do these counterfeite Masters of that Noble-Science of Writing, keep such a flourishing with the borrowed weapons of other mens Pens: onely for this, to get half the Birds (which they stribe to catch) into their hands, that is to say, to be paid halfe the money, which is agreed upon for the Scholler, and his nest being half fill'd with such Gold-Finches, he neuer stays till the rest be sledge, but suffers him that comes next, to beat the bush for the other half. At this Carreere, the Rider that set out last from Smithfield, stopp'd: and alighting from Pacolet, (the Hoyle that carried him) his next journey was made on foot.

THE

Whereunto is added, O per se O



THE BELMANS SE cond Nights-walke.

CHAP. XI. Night-prizes of Villany.



At Lancelot of the infernall Lake, or the knight Errant of Hell, having thus (like a young Country Gentleman) gone round about the Citie, to see the sights not only within the walles, but those also in the Suburbs, was glad when he saw night leap into her Coach, because now he knew he should meet with other strange Birds fluttering from their nests, and crawling out of their dens. His Divination held currant, and the foul weather (which he foretold) fell out accordingly. For Candle-light had scarce opened his eye to look at the City, (like a gunner shooting at a mark) but fearfully (their feet trembling under them) their eyes suspiciously roving from every nook to nook round about them, and their heads (as if they stood upon open skirnes) still turning back behind them, came creeping out of hollow trees, where they lay hidden, a number of cunning Bankrupts, in the shapes of Devils, who when the sparshall of light, the Sunne went up and down to search the Citie, durst not stirre abroad, for feare of being houted at, and followed by whole flocks of undone Creditors.

But now when the stage of the World was hung in blacke, they settled up and downe like proud Tragedians. What thanks they gave to darknesse! what songs they balladed out in praise of Night, for bestowing upon them so excellent a cloake, wherein they might so safely walke muffled! Now durst they, as if they had been Constables, rap aloud at the doores of those to whom they owed most money, and brave them

The *Belmans* Night-walkes.

them with his words, though he payd them not a penny.

Now did they boldly step into some privileged Taberne, and there drinke Healthes, dance with Harlots, and pay both Drawers and Fiddlers after midnight with other mens money: and then march home again fearlesse of the blows that any shoulder-clapper durst give them. Out of another nest flew certain Murderers and Theeves in the shapes of Screech-owls, who being set on by the Night, did beats with their bold and venturous fatall wings at the very doozes, whereas in former times their villanies had entred.

Not farre from These, came crawling out of their bushes a company of grave and wealthy Lechers, in the shapes of Glow-wormes, who with Gold Juggling in their pockets, made such a show in the night that the doozes of common Brothelries flew open to receive them, though in the day time they durst not passe that way, for feare that noted Curtezans should challenge them of acquaintance, or that others should laugh at them to see white heads growing upon greene stalkes.

Then came forth certaine infamous earthy minded Creatures in the shape of Snails, who all the day time hiding their heads in their shells, lest Wives should with two fingers point at them, for living base upon the prostitution of their wives bodies, cared not now, befoze Candle-light to shoot out their largest Hornes.

A number of other monsters like these were scene, (as the Sunne went downe) to venture from their dens, onely to ingender with Darkenesse: but candle-lights eye-sight growing dimmer and dimmer, and he at last falling starke blind, Lucifers Watch-man went stumbling up and downe in the darke.

How to weane Horfes.

Every dooze on a sudden was shut, not a candle stood peeping through any window, not a Vintner was to be scene brewing in his Celloz, not a drunkard to be met reeling, not a spouse to be heard stirring: all the Citie shew'd like one Bed, and all in that Bed were soundly cast in a sleepe. Noyse made no noyse, for everyone that wrought with the hammer was put to silence. Yet notwithstanding when even the Devil himselfe could have beene contented to take a nap, there were

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

were seen Inne-keepers about the town but had their spirits walking. To watch which spirits what they did, our Spy that came late out of the Lower Countries, stole into one of their circles, where lurking very closely, he perceived that when all the guests were profoundly sleeping, when Carriers were soundly snoring, and not so much as the Chamberlaine of the house but was layd up, suddenly out of his bed started an Outler, who having no apparell on but his shirt, a paire of slip-shoes on his feete, with a candle burning in his hand, like old Ieronimo, leapt into the stable amongst a number of poore hungry Jakes, as if that night he had been to ride post to the devil. But his journey not lying that way till some other time, he neither bridled nor saddled any of his four-footed guests that stood there at racke and manger, but seeing them so late at supper, and knowing that to over-eat themselves would fill them full of disteases (they being subject to above an hundred and thirty already) he first (without a word) after a most unmannely fashion took away, not only all the Provender that was set before them, but also all the hay, at which befoze they were glad to lick their lips. The poore horses looked very rudely upon him for this, but he rubbing their teeth only with the end of a Candle (in stead of a Corral) told them, that from their Jewish tricks it was now time to weane them: And so wishing them not to be angry if they lay upon the hard boards, considering all the beds in the house were full, he againe he stole to his couch, till break of day: yet fearing lest the sun should rise to disorder his knavery, up he started, and into the stable he stumbled, scarce halfe awake, giving to every Jade a bottle of hay for his breakfast, but all of them being troubled with the greasy Tooth-ach, could make none, which their masters in the morning seeing, frowns they were either fullen, or else that provender pricked them.

The knavery of Outlers.

This Outler for this peece of service was afterwards preferred to be one of the Officers in Belshazzars Stable.

Another Night-piece drawn in sundry colours.

Shall I shew you what other bottomes of mischievous Plots and Wiles were wound upon the blacke Spectacles of the

The Belmans Night-walkes.

Night, in this his pryvy search: In some streets he met spid-
wibes running till they sweate, and following them close at the
heelles, bespied them to be let in, at the backe doores of houses,
seated either in blind lanes, or in by-gardens: which houses had
roomes builded for the purpose, where young maides, being big
with child by unlawfull Fathers: or yong wibes (in their hus-
bands absence at Sea, or in the Wars) having wrestled with
batchellers, or married men, till they caught falls, lay safely
till they were delivered of them. And for reasonable sumis of
money, the bastards that at these windows crept into the world,
were as closely now and then sent presently out of the world, or
else were so unmannerly brought up, that they never spake to
their owne parents that begot them.

In some streets he met servants, in whose best albeit the ar-
rowes of the plague sticke halfe way, yet by cruell quatters
were they dyben out of doores at midnight, and conveyed to
Garden houses, where they either dyed befoze next morning, or
else were carried thither dead in their coffins, as though they
had been sicke there befoze and there had dyed.

Now and then at the corner of a turning, he espied servants
purloynng fardels of their masters goods, and delivering them
to the hands of common strumpets.

This dooze opened, and Lute with Prodigality were heard to
stand closely kissing: and (wyrting one another by the hand)
softly to whisper out foure or fve good nights, till they met a-
broad the next morning.

A thousand of these Comedies were Acted in dumbe shew,
and onely in the Private houses: at which the Devils messen-
ger laught so loud that Hell heard him, and for toy rang forth
loud and lusty plaudities. But being dyben into wonder,
why the Night would fall in labour, and bring forth so many
Williames, whose births she practised to robbe (as she had
reason) because so many Watchmen were continually called
and charged to have an eye to her doings, at length he percei-
bed that Bats (more ugly & more in number then these) might
flye up and down in darknesse; for though with their letherne
wings they should strike the very Wils out of those Watch-
mens hands, such leaden plummetts were commonly hung
by

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

by sleep at all their eye-lids, that hardly they could be awake:
ned to strike them againe.

On therefore he walke, with intent to hasten home, as ha-
ving fill'd his Table-booke with sufficient notes of intelli-
gence. But at the last, meeting with the Bel-man, and not
knowing what he was, because he went without his Lant-
horne, and some other implements: so the Man in the Moone
was up the most part of the night, and lighted him which way
soever he turned, he took him for some churlish Hobgoblin,
seeing a long staffe on his neck, and therefore to be one of
his owne fellows. The Bel-ringer smelling what strong
Scent he had in his nose, scolded him up, and questioned with
him how he had spent his time in the Citie, and what discove-
rie of Land-villanies he had made in this Iland Voyage: the
Marriner of Hell opened his Chart which he had lined with all
abuses: lying either East, West, North, or South: he shewed
how he had pick'd it, upon what points he had lay'd, where
he put in, under what height he kept himselfe: where he
went a shoare, what strange people he met: what land he had
discovered, and what commodities he was laden with from
thence. Of all which the Bel-man by drawing forth a perfect
Map, they parted. But calling to mind the particular points
of his Commission: of which a Principall one was, that he
should visite Prisoners, (in his Progresse,) Into a Hayle our in-
fermall Catchpoll, the next morning conhard himselfe. And
looking to heare there nothing, but sighing, lamenting, pray-
ing, and cryings out of afflicted and sorrowne creatures, there
was no such matter, But onely a clamorous noise of cursing
Creditors, drinking healths to their confusion, swaggering,
roaring, striking, stabbing one another: as if that all Deiper-
viewes of fifteen Armes had bin swearing together. Con-
sidering the desperate resolutions of some, he wished himselfe
in his owne Territories, knowing more safety there, then in
this Hospitall of furrable mad-men, and could not till about
dinner time be perswaded, but that the Hayle was Hell, every
roome was so smoake with Tobacco, and oathes flying faster
about, then Tapsters could scoze up their frothy reckonings.
But the time of munching being come, all the sport was to see,

The Bel-mans Night-walkes.

how the Prisoners (like Starving Soldiers at the rising of a Colou) ran up and down to arme themselves against that battaile of hunger. Some whetting knives that had meat, others scraping trenchers alone, that had no meat: Some ambling down staires for Bread & Beer, meeting another coming up staires, carrying a Platter more probably aloft, full of powdered Beefe and Bitches, then an Irish man does his enemies head, on the top of his sword. Every Chamber striking like a Cookes Shop, where Robant was stirring. And those that had no Brocken-der in the spanger, nor Hay in the Rack, walking up and down like starved Jades, now over-riden in Southwells. This set at spaw being played out, all seem'd quiet; the water under London Bridge at the turning, was not more still, but locking up being come, that every Cock must go to his roost, the squall of that (in the judgement of the Blacke Spy) might well enough serve to rock Gran-Belzebub asleepe. For nothing could be heard, but keyes jingling, doores rapping, bolts and Locks baring in, Taylors hoarsly & harshly bawling for prisoners to their bed, and prisoners reviling and cursing Taylors for making such a bellicke din. Then to heare some in their Chambers singing and dancing being halfe drunk: others breaking open doores to get more drink to be whole drunk. Some roaring for Tobacco; others raging, and bidding Hels plague on all Tobacco, because it has so dyed up their mouthes; with as many other frantick passions, as there be severall men: the very report of this Antick Dance, would, he thought be better then a Comedy to his infernall Audience; and therefore tooke speciall note of all the mad passages.

In the end, the Bedlamites being drownded more in Beere then cares, and the Devils slye busying about every Prisoners Candle, to spy what they did besides: he saw one sitting on his bed, and reading a Discovry, which he had made in a long Voyage; Of the which, whilst the other fell asleepe, he stole the Papers, and placing them together, sent them to the Bel-man, who afterward thus attir'd, sent them into the World.

Whereunto is added, O per se O.

C H A P. XII

The Abuses done to Prisoners, by over-
cruell Creditors.

Albeit I have done with Prison-keepers, I must not take
such an abrupt leave of Prisoners.

In the Bel-mans second night-walker, he told you what
strange Transformations men were chang'd into; in one Pri-
son, where there was nothing heard but Rearing, Drinking,
Fighting, Swearing: but going a little further, there was
in the Chambers of another Prison, the sound of Tunes more
Tragicall, more serious: here was another manner of noise,
new Terrors, new Whistles, new Convollements. No, no, they
were not new, the Ayre is fill'd with them every day: they are
not strange, because they are common.

The Bel-man went on, whether this fearfull noise led him, Tragicall
and on a sodaine came into a Tragick Circle, in which were tunces.
raised none but spirits of Confusion, as Villanies, Deplozati-
ons, Groanes, Cries, Sighes, and Complaininges.

It was not the cry of an Irish Pinerall, which is miserable The cry is
Howling; nor the crying of English Widowes, at the burfall up.
of their Husbands, which scarce wetts a handkercher, but the
cry of men which pierceth the Clouds.

They did cry to Heaven, to Earth, to God, to man; Heaven Suppose
heard all, and receiv'd some; Earth laid up some, and fed all the this in a
rest; God pittied those whom he took, and preserv'd those that time of
were left: but cruell man, neither regards those that are here, licknesse.
nor respects those that are gone.

The cry of these men is loud, it is heard above the Starres; A prisoners
the cry is great, it incompasseth in two Cities; it is the cry of Bed-fel-
Sicknesse, of Melancholy, Madnesse, Hunger, Cold, Thirst, Pa- low.
kednesse, Poverty, Beggery, Misery.

It is the cry of Church-men, Tradesmen, Husbandmen, A strange
Men indone: of Schollers, Souldiers, all Penitents, all Wile- cry.
ners.

And how far reacheth the ground thinke you, in which these
crys echo one to another: let your eyes walke but over this
Paper, and here far day is dayne.

The Bel-mans Nightwalkes.

A cluster
of sower
Grapes.

Upon one side of the Thames stand, the white Lion, the Kings-Bench, the Marshal-sea, the Clinke, the Counter in South-warke. On the other side, the Gate-house, Ludgate, New-gate, Wood-street Counter, Poultry Counter, Finsbury, New-prison, Lobs-pound, & the hole at Saint Katherines. Fourteen Golgathas environing one City! fourteen Char-nell-houses, where men are buried alive! either this must proceed from much cruelty in the Creditor, or much deceit in the Debtor.

Whosoever, these Block-houses of the Law, should not strike those quite thozow and thozow, that bayle Bonnet, to their mercy and authority, yet they doe. But if Truth and Mercy would take Candles in their hands, and show the faces of these crying Prisoners: Alas what wretched, leane, starved, discoloured, and dejected countenances would they behold? what a Forlorne Hope would this be?

A prisoners
Picture.

In some of these ragged Regiments, are 100. In some 200. In some 80. In all the 14 one thousand at least: what a losse is this to the King? What dishonour to the Countrey? What scandal to Christianity? What Derision to Policy? But remember thou (whatsoever thou art) that art a Creditor, and hast inclosed thy heart between walls of Flint and Marble, remember that a Prisoner is Gods Image, yet mans Slave, and a Scribes Bond-man. He is Christs Patron, Redeemed from one Hell, and cast into another.

The mis-
ery of a pri-
soner.

A Prisoner is a Bird in a Cage, when he sings he mournes: a Beare at a stake, baited for money, a Horse in a Pound, be his courage never so great, there tis lost; a Daniel in the Lyons Den, but wheres his Abacuc? Remember, O cruel man, thy Prisoner pines in a Hayle, his Wife at home, his children beg, servants starve: his goods are seized on, reputation ruin'd, his name so gotten health, shaken, his wits distracted, his conversation blasted, his life miserable, his death contemptible.

A Court
Creditor.
A City
Creditor.

If a Gentleman keeps a wretch in Prison, he deserves to be degraded, for Gentry is bound to honour, to defend the oppressed. If a Citizen harres a man of his liberty, he himselfe is not free, but hazards the danger of being a Forreiner in Heaven, for disfranchizing his Brother on earth. If a Coun-
treymen

Whereunto is added, O per se O

frey-man stile his neighbour in a nasty Jaylor, let him not be angry if God blasse his Coyne, kills his Cattell, burnes his Barnes, and blowes downe his Treas, when he himselfe defaces, dishonours, and destroys a peece of trok worth all the World.

A Country Creditor.

If such cruell Creditors should be asked, what they get when such poore men (their Debtors) dye in prison, you may very well say, say, what have we not lost: your debtors are lost, your souls are (or ought to be afflicted;) Sales of Wite are left for you at the prison doores; you have the lives of Christians, the bones of Prisoners, the anger of your maker, the curses of wives, the wor-worthes of children, the hate of good men, the praise of no man.

C H A P. XLII.

The Villanies and abuses committed by Politicke Banck-rupts.

Now albeit, this poore Iruis (last spoken of) is to be pittied and relieved, yet there is one kind of Prisoner, deserves no comfort, no Commiseration: and that is the Politicke Banck-rupt.

It is not the honest Banck-rupt undone by suretiship, Casualties, or losses at Sea; but a politicke Ban-rupt, a Noble in the pound Banck-rupt, a five shillings, nay a ten groates in the pound Banck-rupt, a voluntary Villayn, a detourning Locust, a destroying Catterpillar, a golden these.

In Anno 38. Hen. 8. An act begins thus. Whereas Divers and sundry persons, craftily obtaining into their hands, great substance of other mens goods, doe suddenly fly to parts unknowne, or keepe their houses, not minding to pay, or restore to any their Creditors their Debt or duties, but at their owne wills and pleasures consume the substance obtained by Credit of other men, for their owne pleasures and delicate living, against all reason, equitie, and good conscience: Well therefore enacted, &c.

And then follow severall statutes to punish those Anthropophagi (meate eaters.)

So in Anno 13. Eliza. so in Anno 1. Iacob, Strong and running

The Bel-mans Nightwalkes.

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of fowre
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of a prisoner.

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The Bel-mans Night-walkes.

cunning nets were spread by those Parliaments, to catch these Foxes: yet how many of them have bin since, and at this houre are earth'd in the Kings Bench, the Fleet, and that abused Banquary of Ludgate?

Here they play at Bowles, lye in faire chambers within the Rule, fare like Dives, laugh at Lazarus, can wake up and down many times by Habeas Corpus, & were their Creditors: there they lye Barricadood (within King Luds Bulwarke) against Gun-shot: there they strut up and downe the Prison, (like Magnificoes in Venice, on the Rialta) byake in cloathes spoute in Ruffes, with Gold-monght Night-caps on their heades. They feed deliciously, plentifully, voluptuously; have excellent Wines to drinke, handsome Wives to lye with when they please, who come in, not like the Wives of prisoners, but of the best and wealthiest Citizens.

These men, command the Stone walls, not the walls them: They scoyne the poore miserable wretches, who begge at the Gate, and live upon the charity of the house; on them they looke as at their under-vassails, and crying a Fico for their Creditors, because there they live safe, to spend other mens moneys.

How are these wholesome lawes (and the good Princes that made them) abused, by these corroding cankers, that ente into the hearts of ten thousand mens estates, to the undoing of families, coruption of whole Parishes, and dishonouring of a Noble Kingdom.

Such a Banck-rupt, is a Devill in a Mant, and so he may stand, cares not whom he blowes up. His beginning is subtilty, his middle Treachery, his end beggery, if not in himselfe, in his posteritie, for

De male quaesito, non gaudet certius heres.

Goods ill-gotten

E're the third heire lye rotten.

To conclude, such a Banck-rupt, has the head of a Lamb, the eyes of a Dove, the tongue of a Nightingale, the armes of a Free-booter, the hands of a Hang-man, the teeth of a Lyon, and the belly of an Elephant.

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

C H A P. XIII.

The Prisoners Supplication.

Vhat with the noise, first of those roaring Prisoners, then the cries of the poore distressed ones, & now lastly, the thunder of this Canon, discharged against this Machivillian brood of Bankrupts; the Bel-man, perswaded the better sort of Prisoners (who had the true feeling of sorrow indeed) to draw a Supplication, and to let it go by this Title. The Prisoners Supplication to Conscience. They did so, and finished it. Not to weary you with all their tedious grievances and complaints, you shall onely have some of the principall heads, leaving the bodies to lie in Prison still.

The stiles which they pin'd upon Conscience, were many, and great: they call'd her, brightest Starre in the Church: Ancient Reader of the Law: Rare Pleader: Noblest Harauld to Judges: Uprightest Clearke in the Chancery: Best Mistresse to the Masters in the Court of Request: Holy Palmer to good men, and Blacke Recorder to bad men. They told her, that where she onely had a Commission from the King of heaven, to call Creditors before her, they prayed her to do so, for if she stood not to them, they should die in prison, and have scarce any to bury them.

The petition with all their instructions she took; and folding up the Paper put it into her bosome, hasting with all speed convenient toward the heart of the Citie.

At length she was entertain'd and welcom'd into a worthy Citizens house: A Gentleman that by her assistance, had risen to great wealth: by her Arguments grew strong in Religion: by her perswasions embrac'd Schollers, loved Souldiers, made much of all men.

His soule was a Garden, beautifully planted; his mind a Pallace, rarely adozned; his body, a Temple of such admirable building, that people passing by, would do it reverence.

In this grave Citizens company, was sweet Society, of other Noble spirits, sitting at a Table, all of them taking honor from the Citie, to be called her sonnes, and she as much glosping by them to be saluted by the name of mother.

The Belmans Night-walkes.

At the very first sight of Conscience, they all rose up, receiving her with all the gracefull complements, that were due to so Divine and excellent a creature: every one of them, hasting with a kind of grave Ceremony, to take her by the hand, and seat her highest at the Board.

When all being silent, and their eyes fixed onely upon her face, with an expectation of some speech from her, she drew out of her bosome, the Prisoners Supplication, read it openly, and repeating the particular numbers of all such miserable men as lay in Prison, she fetch'd a deep sigh, and there brake into this passionate Abruption: O (quoth Conscience) if amongst you, (but I hope you are none of them) there be any, under whom, men suffer the cruelty of English execution, (worse then the Germane wheels) imprisonment: let Conscience yet perswade you, to send Mercy, to speak to them at their Iron grates.

The last work you are to do in this world, and the hardest to finish, is to beg Mercy, and obtain it.

The omnipotent builder of the Heavens, oftentimes squares out his Plat-formes by your Lines and your Measures: For if man commiserates man, the Master and chiefe Almourer of Mercy, extends compassion to him. — if not, not.

Forgive,
and be for-
given.

It is one of the main Petitions which you tye your soules to every morning: dally not with the great Treasurer of Heaven and Earth, to ask one thing and mean another: so your own turns be served, you care for nobody else: not to forgive when you are forgiven, is to tell a lie to him that is all Truth; you make a promise, and break it, you beg a Blessing, and take up a Curse: such Equivocation runs hand in hand with Condemnation.

A Citizens
Herauldry,

Be Men, be Christians, be Citizens. Citizens profess Gencrosity, Affability, Brekenesse, Love, Piety, Pity, this is the Blazen of a Noble Coat: make it the Escutcheon of your Armes: Mercy, is the best Motto: Clemency a Crest, no Herauld can give a braver. Release men made Captives to you by the Lawes of this Kingdome, and the Lawes which are set down in the Upper-house of the Coelestiall Parliament, will make you free Denizens in a more glorious Kingdome.

Whereunto is added, *O per se O*

A Kingdome! where there is no change of things, no alteration of State, no loss of Treasures, no Warres, no rebenges, no Citizens flying for feare of infection, none Dying of them that stay, no Prisoners to write petitions to Conscience, yet Conscience sits there in glory: there is true Majesty, true honour, true peace, true health: there is all life, all happinesse, all immortality. She ended, they arose, and one of the company, who was a Well-willer to Prisoners, hastened home to write down what he heard Conscience utter.

A rare
kingdome.

C H A P. XV.

The Abuses of Keepers, Nurses, or Chare-women.

O Sad and dismal Musique! the Bells begin to Toll heavily and presently to ring out: Sicknesse so again threatens to invade this Noble Kingdome, againe to locke up the doores of this populous City, defend us heaven!

But if the Judge eternall holds it fit to call another Sessions so soone after the last, and to arraigne our lives at the barre for our sinnes, of which most of our soules have ever since been dangerously sicke, then thou (whosoever thou art) that art stricke, and must betake thee to thy pillow, pray, and pray heartily, that Heaven may send thee an honest, carefull, conscientious, and good keeper: for in the last and late great sicknesse, many of that Nursery, were as the wolves, which howl'd every night at the Moone, and in outward shape were tender-hearted, (almost weeping to see a sicke man, or sicke woman in their beds) but the ayres of a number of them, (as it proved afterward) were to wrappe such Bodies in their winding sheets.

Such hard-hearted keepers are Foxes, and when the Sheepheard is gon to rest (when all the house is fast asleepe) then worry they the Lambs. The sicker those are whom they keep, the more easily doe they seize their prey, their Bellies are cupboards, ever devouring victuals, not the worst, but the best they can lay their lips on.

Their tongues are lickerish as Flies, eyes are quick-sighted as cats at midnight, hands as catching as bird-lime, hearts as false as Dice, yet running smoothly.

The Bel-mans Night-walkes.

They are called keepers, because whatsoeuer they get but hold of, they keep it with griping paws neber to let it goe.

They are Dry-Nurles, and starve so farre as they dare, all that come under their fingers.

They are called Chare-women, because when Death sits all night by the sick mans bed-side, they by their good wills sit till morning by a good fire, in easie Chaires, and are therefore christened by the names of Chare-women.

O, if you will, that word Chare, comes from the Latine word, Chara, which signifies deare. And they that hyze these Night-crows into their houses, shall find them dearer ware than Bullocks in Smithfield: thousands, in and about London, and Westminster, have bought their attendance so deere, that their lives have gone for it. The watch-men of the Citie get not so much amongst all their chalkie Walls in a month, as one of these scrapes to her self in one night, when she plucks but a shirt over a dead mans head and ears: Whose shirts are their fees so are Waist-coats, Night-capps, Sheets, Pillow-beers, Bands, Hand-ketchers, any thing, Rats are not such gnawers of linnen, nor spoaths of woollen, as these are of both.

If a rich Bachelor sicken, it is an East Indian voyage, when she hoyses up sayle from her own house into his: and when he dyes, then she and her lading comes home: Breda is then taken, and she alone has the spoyle.

The sight of a Doctor strikes her into a palenes, an Apothecaries man with his Urin eyes, gibes her a purge, for any one that byings health in his hand, puts sickness into her.

The Tolling of Bells, is musicke to her, she cares not how few live over whom she is patron, nor how many dye, though in her Armes; the more water she fishes in, her fare is the better.

Art thou sick, and trustest one of these to make thy Broths: Some of them are such Cooks, that what good thingsoeuer is prescribed for thy recovery, shall be sure to be left out.

If hot drinks would save thy life, she will perswade thee to peeze thins cold Water. Hast thou any part of thy body miled, take heed to her playsters, and her Surgery, for she cares not

Where unto is added, *O per se* O.

not how soon a cold strikes to the heart, if thou art to leave any thing behind thee to warm her.

One charitable quality she has, for at midnight if she be alone with thee, & perceives any signes of Death in thy speech, thy pillow will she pull away, to hasten thee on thy way.

I speak not this against all keepers: Heaven forbid, a number of them are motherly, skillfull, careful, vigilant, and compassionate women: good Nurses indeed, necessary helpers in time of such extremity: But I write against those, who fearing neither Dore nor Plague, nor death, nor any danger, have bene the spoyle, ruine and confusion of many a poore servants life; many a Child hath bene made Fatherlesse by them, many a mother childlesse: May they repent and amend.

C H A P. XVI.

The abuses of Ale-houses.

When we come now to an Epidemicall disease, a generall calamity, an Impostume as wide as a Kingdom: Abuses of Ale-houses, what penne can set them downe! how many Parliaments have bene Physicians to cure this evil, yet they keepe like Tettars over the Body of the Commonwealth.

Not to meddle with the Actes and Statutes of all our former Kings; what did King James, Anno 1. against these exorbitants? It was then enacted, that whereas the ancient, true, and principall use of Inns, Ale-houses, & Victualling houses, was for the receipt, reliefe, and lodging of way-faring people, to supply the wants of such as are not able, by greater quantities to make their provisions of Victuals, and not to harbor idle fellows, to consume their money and time in drunkenness; It was therefore enacted, &c. (See the statute) that for every offence committed by any Inne-keeper, Ale-house-keeper, or Victualler, (the offences are there set downe,) they should forfeit ten Shillings to the use of the poore, &c. If these forfeitures were truly paid, as they are truly made, the poore in some Parishes would be as merry as the rich.

But now (for all this Act, and for all the other Statutes

The *Bcl-mans* Nightwalkes.

for the same purpose established since) How many Parishes in England, how many in and about London, especially through out all the Suburbs, doe like Ilandes of men as it were, in hot waters, strong Beere, and head-strong Ale?

For to such a height is this sinne of drinking growne, that Coblers, Tinkers, Bedlers, Boylers, all Trades, all professions sit tippling all day, all night, singing, dancing (when they can stand) laughing, cursing, swearing, fighting.

A whole street is in some place, but a continued Ale-house: Not a shoppe to be seen between a Red Lattice, and a Red Lattice, no workers, but all drinkers: not a Tradesman at his occupation, for every Tradesman keeps (in that place) an Ale-house.

It is an easier life, a lazier life, a Trade more gainfull: no such commings in, as those of the Tappe: insomuch, that in most of the Suburban out-roads, the best men there that command the rest (the Grand Signiors of the Parish) as Constables, Headboroughs, and other Officers, are common Ale-house-keepers: and he that can lay in most Gayles of Beere, and be furnished with the strongest Ale, and headiest Liquor, carries the Bucklers away from all his fellows.

Now because the fashion of downe-right blowes in the ignoble Schoole of Drinking is growne stale, wickednesse hath invented new sorts of weapons, to bewitch men (that love such kind of play) to goe reeling to destruction; in some places, they have little leather lacks, tipped with silver, and hung with small silver Bells, (these are called the Gyngle-Boyes) to ring peales of drunkennesse.

In other places, they have shallow browne bottles, which they call Whiskins: Then have you another Brewing call'd Huffs Ale; of which because, no man must have but a Pot at a sitting, and so be gone, the restraint makes men more eager to come on: so that by this policy, one man may Huffle it four or five times in a day.

These quaffings hurt thousands, and undoe many poore men who would else follow their l. hours, but now live in beggary; their Wives (unlesse they tipple hard too, as for the most part they doe, by their obill examples) starting at home, and

Whereunto is added, *O per se O*.

and their ragged children begging abroad. Then in some places (in stead of full quarts) they have Jugges of a pint and a halfe; with long necks embroydered with froth: Hans not a wine Pint for a Penny, Henry Hans of draughts a piece: and a device of six earthen Pipes or hollow Funnels, all into one, every Funnell holding about two spoon-fulls.

If the Acts against these enormities were severely executed, and drunkards punished as the Law does sentence them, then would London be a very sober Citie: Constables might then sit more quietly in their watch; the two Counters and other Houses not be haunted with so many Rats (which are a sort of drunken vermine, that come staggering in at midnight:) and Carpenters might be more set a worke in making of more new payres of Stocks, the old ones what by Wybery, and Conscience, standing too idle.



C H A P. XVIII.

And now to our Discourse of *O per se O*, under which name, the Author disguising and shadowing himselfe, thus beginnes.



Thou shalt know that serving (in the late Queens time) many yeares together in the Office of an high Constable in that County, wherein I now dwell, I drew from the examination of such lewd persons as came before me, the truth of all those villanies which here I publish.

Tis discourse was sent from a stranger to the Author.

In the mustering of this damned Regiment, I found, that whether they were Rogues taken in Ranthroples, (that is to say, in Matches or Wards) by the Petty Harman-Becke, (who in their company, signifies a Petty Constable) or whether they were such as in the Canting tongue are called Maunders (of begging or demanding) whether they lived in Bowling Kennes (Ale-houses) or what other course they led of life soever any of them spunne, it was ever wound in a black bottome

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bottomne of the most pernicious making up, that the Deuill could teach them: insomuch that albeit the very Deuill himself could possibly haue written downe the discovery of any grosse villantes by them committed, they would as easily venture upon damning, in deniall of it with oathes, as if there had been no hell for such offenders.

For my better painting forth these Monsters, I once took one of them into my service being a sturdy big-lim'd young fellow of him I desired some knowledge in their gibbish, but he sware he could not Cant, yet his Rogue-ship seeing himselfe kindly used by me, would now and then shoot out a word of Canting, and being therupon asked why with oathes he denied it before, he told me that they are sworn neuer to disclose their skill in Canting to any householder, for if they do, the other Manners or Rogues will them (kill them) yet he for his part (he said) was neuer sworn, because he was a Clapperdogcon, that is to say, a begger boyne. This Clapperdogcon staid with me so long as he durst, and then bingd a Walte in a darkmans, stole away from me in the night time. So that what intelligence I got from him, or any other trained up in the same Rudiments of Roguery, I will chiefly, plainly, and truly set down, as I had it from my deuillish School-master, whom I call by the name of O per le O.

Of him I learned, that the cause why so many of this wicked generation wander up and down this Kingdom, is the free command and abundant use they haue of women: for if you note them well in their marching, not a Tatterdemallion walks his round, be he young or be he old but he hath his Mort or his Doxy at his heels (his woman, or his whore) for in hunting of their rascal Deer, this Law they hold, when they come to strike a Doe, if she will not wap for winne, let her Trine for a make, if she will not — O per le O, for a penny, let her hang for a halfe-penny.

And this liberty of leaching is increased by the almost infinite numbers of tippling houses, called Bowling kennes, or of Stalling Kennes, that is to say, houses where they haue ready money for any stoll goods: unto which nests, Birds flye of the same feather, that the owner is of: for if the Ale-seller be a House-Dealer, a Cut-purse, a Robber by the high-way, a Chea-
ter,

Whereunto is added, O per se O.

ter, &c. of the same costed his guests. Where houses are the
 garretes of Rogues and Whores for to sell the bestow
 clothes, hats, shirts, and other garments being stolen, if they
 had not shalling Kennes to receive them, they should be
 (Dogs) godwinning out of the world, having their report & cut
 by Rogues, if they have not Bowling Kennes to send them in, in
 the Ceremony of whose ragged assemblage, the Bel-man a little
 mistook himselfe, for Priggart, Follshers, & Cloyers being all
 (in English) stealers, use neither word nor deed in
 their forgeries as he furnished them, but when they intend
 to strike a hand, they lead their admirable troops in the day,
 but they fall soorth, and waste the peoples in the night. For
 some one sturdy bel-bound above the rest, undertakes to be the
 Miller (that is to say, the Miller) I hope this can be no disgrace
 to any honest miller, who is no thesser with a false hammer. And
 this killer brings to the slaughter-house (viz: a Bowling Ken)
 a Bleating cheat, (a sheep) Another, Mills a Crackmans, breaks
 a hedg, and that wood beats the Den, whilest the sheep is
 dyed, cut in pieces and put into earthen pots, made for the
 purpose to bake their vittalls in. The Dens mouth being
 thus dabbled up, out fly the little Drivels (whose hands & then the
 Den) either to break an house some two or three miles off,
 or to doe as bad a villany. The piece of service being perfor-
 med, a Retreat is sounded, and about midnight they returne
 merrily, full to their goddies merrily, and then abuse their
 peoples of wine, wits, knacks, or any thing else most thew-
 ly. In which Partner ship the host and hostesse are these
 sharers, but such subtil shop-keepers are these water-bathers of
 the Drivels small wares, that they never get out to sell, but
 when the coast is cleare, and that (as I have for among
 Whores) the Hue and Cryes thout be stop, that went baw-
 ling after them: for about a seventh night after, (when all is
 bathed) to the Scalling Kenne goes the Duds for Lowre, to the
 thewing-house are the stolen clothes sent roundly for money:
 which being sold out and wadded away by these Ravens scat-
 teringly, the next pyce that they light upon, being over at some
 Faire, or else a market.

And now that we talke of Faires, let my pen gallop over a

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few lines, and it shall bring you (without spurring) straight into Gloucestershire, then if you ride upon Pegasus, there if you please to alight neere Tewkesbury, at a place called Marston-faire, being kept there upon the two Holy-Knoodes dayes, you shall see more Rogues, then ever were whipt at a Cartt aris through London, and more Beggers then ever came dropping out of Ireland. If you looke upon them, you would think you lived in Henry 6. time, and that lacke Cadys rebellious rag-amuffins were there mustering. Duokirk cannot show such Charks. The wild Irish are but flocks of wild Geese to them. And these swarmes of Loenges come to this towne faire, from all parts of the Land, within an hundred miles compasse. To describe the Booths is lost labour, for let the Hangman show but his wardrop, and there is not a rag difference betwene them. Some here stand crying, What doe you lacke? for you can aske for nothing that is good, but here it is lacking. The buyers and sellers are both alike, talony Sonne-burnt Kalsals, and they flocke in such troopes, that it seems as if Hell were broke loose. The Shop-keepers are Theebes, and the Chapman Rogues, Beggers and all boxes: so that to bring a purse full of money thither, were madness: for it is sure to be cut.

But would you know what Wares these Marchants of Gloucestres offer: only Duds for the Quarrens, that is to say, cloathes for the body, which they have pilfered from hedges and houses. And this filthy faire begins before day and endeth before nine in the same morning: at which breaking up, they do not presently march away with their bags & their baggages: but he who is chosen the Lord of the faire (who is commonly the lustiest rogue in the whole bunch) leads his totted footmen & foot-women from Ale-house to Ale-house, where being armed all in Ale of proofe, and their Ben Bowse (the strong liquor) causing them to have Nasc Nabs (drunken Core-combs) up sing they the Cars, downe goe the Booths, about five broken Jugges: here lyes a Rogue bleeding, there is a Goat cursing, here a Doris stabbing with her knife: and thus this faire which begins merrily, ends madly: for knaves let it up, and queans pull it downe.

Whereunto is added, *O per se O*

Yet to meet at this assembly (how farre off soever they be)
they wil keep their day, though they hop thither upon one crutch:
and it is for seven causes that they thus bestirre their stumps to
be at this up-sitting, which are these, viz.

1. Every one as his Rogues-ship is of bulk, or can best
swagger, desireth to be chosen Lord of the Faire: or if he loose
his Lordship, yet to be a retainer at least, and to fight under his
tattered colours.

2. To meet with the Sister-hood and Brother-hood of
Tobaccoes and Wallet-mongers.

3. To share such money as is taken for (Dudde Cheates
wonne) clothes and things stolne.

4. To know how the world goes abroad, what newes in
the Deuile, the Countrey, and where is Benchip (Good) or
whers (Quire) haught.

5. To be Bowtie, drunk for company.

6. To bandy their Catny and Leather-beaten forces of
Mawnderers (being of their own fraternity) against any other
troupe of Mountebanks, at any other Faire or Market, where
the loose Randevouz is to be made.

7. Lastly, to enact new warre orders for such stealing of
cloathes, &c. with all manner of Armour for the body: but espe-
cially, Stamps (Shoes) because (being Beggers) they are sel-
dome set on horse-back.

These are the seven halters that draw these Hell-hounds
to this Faire, for the least of which seven, they will venture a
hanging.

The Faire is broken up, and because it is their fashion at
the trussing up of their packs, to trudge away merrily, I will
here teach you what *O per se O* is, being nothing else but the
burden of a Song, set by the Devill, and sung by his Quire: Of
which I will set down no more but the beginning, because the
muddle is detestable, the end abominable, and all of it damnable.

Thus it sounds:

Wilt thou a begging goe,

O per se O, O per se O,

Wilt thou a begging go?

Yes verily, yea.

The Bel-mans Night-walkes.

Then must thou God forsake,

And to stealing thee betake :

O per se O, O per se O,

Yes verily yea, &c.

This is the Spanish thoy use in their Libkens (their Lodgings) where thirty or forty of them being in a swanne, one of the master Devils sings, and the rest of his damned crew follow with the burden : As which mid night Catech-walkings of theirs, nothing is heard but cursing and prophatation, and such swearing, as if they were all Knights of the Post. Jewes did never crucifie Christ with more dishonour, then these Rake-hells, who with new invented fearful oathes tear him in pieces : and no marvell, for most of those who are Beggers boyne, are never christned : besides they have in their Canting, a word for the Devil, as the English, as Ruffin for the one, and Cannikin for the other : but for God they have none, only they name him, but it is not reverence, but abuse : all their talks in their nasty Libkens (where they lie like swine) being of nothing, but Wapping, Nigging, Prigging, Cloying, Plicking, Carling, and such like. Who therefore would pity such impostors, whose faces are full of ostentation, hearts of villany, mouths of lies, bodies of sores (which they call their great Cleymes) but laid upon their flesh by cunning : whose going, A-bram that is to say, (which) is not for want of cleathes, but to stir up men to pity, and in that pity, to cover their devotion : now whereas the Bel-man (in his private search) found out the trick of these secretly Devils, pulling off some of their swathers, onely to shew their ugliness, but to want of good and perfect eyesight, not stripping off their skins, as I heare purpote to be, and so to dye black, which think that which the Bel-man (by being over-watched) did find, and shew those abuses named to the world, which he never discovered.

First therefore you should behold the Abram-man in his true colours, his right shape, his stonie ragges, and then shall you heare the phrase of his Mawnding begging.

Next him comes marching the Counterfeit Souldier, with his Mawnding note too. At his Eagle follow Ben-feakers

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

feakers of Iybes, (that is to say) Counterfeeters of Masse-pozis,
Then Dronimerars.

Then Chapperdungeons in their true habiliments, and their
true beggerly Rhetorick they use in begging.

Then will I shew you how they hang together in fraterni-
ties, and what Articles of Brother-hood they are shewn to: with
a note (as good as any Rogues marke, they carry about them)
how to know these Knot of Knaves, or these brother-hoodes,
their names, their Libkens, or Lodgings, their Stalling Kennes,
to which all stoll goods are brought. And lastly, to shew you
that even in their mirth they are Devils, you shall heare their
true Canting Songs, now used among them.

In setting down all which hidden villanies (never till this
day discovered) you shall find a mixture not onely of all those de-
fectible subtilties, used in making those soyes which eat into
their flesh, but also the tricks and medicines they have (with-
out helpe of Surgeons) to cure them. I will besides (in their
descriptions) here and there stick words and phrases of their
gibbish, or beggerly language, giving them the stamp present-
ly of true English, which labour I take of purpose to procure de-
light to the Reader.

Of the Abram his description.

The Abram Cove, is a lusty strong Rogue, who walketh
with a Slade about his Quarrons, a sheet about his body,
Fringing hanging to his hammes, bande-leere tulle, for all the
world as Carperles and Theeves wear their sheets to the
Gallowes, in which their Truls are to bury them: oftentimes
(because he scoznes to follow any fashions of hose) he goes with-
out breeches, in a cot Jerkin with hanging sleeves (imitati-
on of our Gallants) but no Datin or Chamlet Elbowes, for
both his legs & armes are bare, having no Commission to cover
his body, that is to say, no shirt: A face staring like a Saracen,
his haire long, and slightly knotted, for he keeps no Barber: A
good Filch (or staffe) of grown Ash, or else Hazel, in his f amble
(in his hand) and sometimes a sharp stick, on which he hang-
eth Ruffe-pecke, Bacon. These walking up and down the
Countrey, are more terrible to women and children, then the
name of Raw-head and Bloudy-bones, Robin Good-fellow,

The *Bel-mans* Nightwalkes.

or any other Hobgoblin-Crackers, tyed to the Dogs taylor, make not the pooze Cur run faster, then these Abram Ninnies do the silly Villagers of the Country, so that when they come to any dooze a begging, nothing is denyed them.

Their Marke.

Some of these Abrams have the Letters F. and R. upon their Armes: some have crosses, and some other Marke, all of them carryng a blue colour, some were an iron ring, &c. which marks are pynnted upon their flesh, by tying their arme hard with two strings thre or four inches asunder, and then with a sharp Aule pycking or rasing the skin, to such a figure or pynnt as they best fancy, they rub that place with burnt Paper, pisse, and Gunpowder, which being hard rubbd in, & suffered to dry, sticks in the flesh a long tyme after: when these marks faile, they renew the at pleasure. If you examine them how these letters or figures are pynnted upon their armes, they will tell you it is the marke of Bedlam, but the truth is, they are made as I have reported.

And to colour his villany the better, every one of these Abrams hath a severall gesture in playing his part: some make an horrid noise, hollowly sounding, some whoop, some hollow, some shew onely a kind of wild distracted ugly look, uttering a simple kind of Mawnding, with these additions of words (well & wisely.) Some dance (but keep no measure) others leap up and down and fetch Gambals, all their actions shew them to be as drunk as beggers: so not to help the, what are they but drunken beggers? All that they beg being either lowre or bowle (mony or drink.)

Their Maund or Begging.

The first begins, Good Vrsnip, Master, or good Vrsnips rulers of this place, bestow your reward on a pore man that hath lien in Bedlam without Bishops-gate, three years, foure moneths, and nine dayes. And bestow one piece of small silver towards his fees which he is indebted there, the summe of three pounds thirteen shillings, seven pence halfe peny, (or to such effect) and hath not wherewith to pay the same, but by the good help of Vrsnipfull and well-disposed people, and God to reward them for it.

The second begins: Now Dame well and wisely: what will you give poor Tom now? one pound of your sheeps feathers

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

to make poore Tom a Blanket : or one cutting of your Sow side, no bigger than my arm, or one piece of your Salt meat to make poor Tom a sharing horn : or one crosse of your small silver towards the buying of a paire of Shoes, (well and wisely) Ah, God blesse my good dame (well and wisely) give poor Tom an old sheet to keep him from the cold, or an old dublet or Ierkin of my Masters, God save his life.

Then will he dance and sing, or use some other Antick, and ridiculous gesture, shutting up his counterfeited Puppet play, with this Epilogue or conclusion, Good dame give poor Tom one cup of the best drink (well and wisely) God save the King and his Counsell, and the Governour of this place, &c.

Of Counterfeit Souldiers.

These may well be called Counterfeit Souldiers, for not one (scarce) among the whole army of them, ever discharged so much as a Caliber : nothing makes them Souldiers but old spandilions, which they buy at the Brokers. The weapons they carry are short Crab-tree Cudgels, and these (because they have the name of Souldiers) never march but in troopes two or three in a company : of all sorts of Rogues these are the most impudent and boldest, for they knocke at mens doores, as if they had serious businesse there ; whereas the doore being opened to them, they begin this parle.

Their Mawnding.

Gentle Rulers of this place bestow your reward upon poor Souldiers, that are utterly maymed and spoyled in his Maiesties late war, as well for Gods cause as his Maiesties and yours. And bestow one piece of your small silver upon poor men, or somewhat towards a meals meat, to succour them in the way of trueth, &c. for Gods cause. These fellows go commonly hurt in the left arme beneath the elbow (having a Rybe jerked, that is to say a Wasse-poyt sealed with license to depart the colours, (under which if you rightly examine them they never fought) yet wheresoever the wars are, and how far off soever, thus can they wound themselves at home.

Their making of their Sores.

Take unslaked Lime and Sope, with the rust of old yron : these mingled together, and spread thicke on two pieces of leather, which are clapt upon the arme one against another :

two

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two small pieces of wood (fitted to the purpose) holding the leathers bolone, all which are bound hard to the arme with a garter: which in a few houres fretting the skin with blisters, and being taken off, the flesh will appeare all raw; then a linnen cloth being applyed to the raw blistered flesh, it sticks so fast, that upon plucking it off, it bleeds: which blood (or else some other) is rubb all over the arme, by which meanes (after it is well dyed on) the arme appeares blacke, and the soze raw & reddish, but white about the edges like an old wound: which if they desire to heale, a bolone paper with butter and mace being applied, they are cured: and thus (without weapon) do you see how our Maunding counterfeit Souldiers come mayned.

Of placing their Sores.

The Souldier hath his soze alwayes on his left arme (unless he be left handed, for then because of the better use of that hand it is upon the right) betwixt the elbow and the wrist, and is called by the name of Souldiers Mawnd.

When a soze is placed on the back of the hand, & that he saith he was hurt by an horse, then it is called Foot-mans Mawnd.

When the soze is above the elbow, as if it were broken, or hurt, by falling from a scaffold, it is called Masons Mawnd. And thus the altering the place of the soze, altereth the Mawnd.

Of these counterfeit Souldiers, some of them being examined will say, they were lately Serbing-men, but their Master being dead, and the household dispersed, they are compelled to this basenesse of life for want of meanes. Some of them can play the Abram, be mad Toms, or else beg Rum Mawnd (counterfeit to be a foole) or else that his tongue is tyed and cannot speak, and such like.

Of Ben-Feakers of Postes.

They who are Counterfeiters of Postes, are called Ben-feakers, that is to say, Good-makers; & these makers (like the Drivells Hackney-men) lye lurking in every country, to send his assailers poste to hell. The best poste-posts that ever I saw, were made in S. Shire, with the hand of one M. W. subscribed unto them. There was another excellent Ben-feaker about 14, a Towne in G. Shire: in S. I well another, who tooke two shillings & six pence (two Boords and six winnes) &

two

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

Two Boords and a Flag, for every Waste-port that went out of his beggarly Office, he counterfeited the Seale of L. D.

Of these Ben-seakers I could say much more, if I should be counted a blabber: but note the very best of them are made in L. to carry men from thence into W.

How to know counterfeited Passe-ports.

The Seales of Noblemen, Gentlemen, Iustices, or any other who have authority to ale Seales, are graben in Silber, copper, or some other hard stuff: & those things which are so graben, seale the Names or such like with sharp edges & with a round circle enclosing it, as if it were cut with an instrument of steels, and it maketh a neat and deep impression: but these counterfeited Iarkes (or Seales) are graben with the point of a knife, upon a sticks end, whose roundnesse may well be perceived from the circle of a common turn's Seale: these for the most part bearing the ill-favour'd shape of a Buffars Nab, or a Prancers Nab (a dogs head, or a Hozles) & sometimes an Ualcanus, and such like; the counterfeited Iarke having no circle about the edges. Besides, in the Waste-port you shall lightly find these words, viz. For Salomon saith, Who giveth the poore, lendeth the Lord, &c. And that Constables shall helpe them to lodgings: And that Curats shall perswade their Parishioners, &c.

Another note is, let them be in what part of the Land soever they will, yet have they an hundred miles to goe at least, every one of them having his Doxie at his heeles. And thus much of Ben-seakers.

Of Dommerars.

The Bel-man took his marks amisse, in saying that a Dommerar is equall to a Cranke, for of these Dommerars I never met but one, and that was at the house of one M. L. of L. This Dommerars name was W. hee made a strange noise, shewing by fingers acrosse, that his Tongue was cut out at Chalke-hill, in his hand hee carried a sticke, about a foot in length and sharpe at both ends, which he would thrust into his mouth, as if he meant to shew the stumpe of his Tongue. But in doing so, he did of purpose bit his Tongue with the sticke to make it bleed, which filling up his mouth, you could not for blood, perceive any Tongue at all. because he had turned it up-

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ward, and with his sticke thrust it into his throat. But I coulde him to be held fast by the strength of men, untill such time that opening his teeth with the end of a small cudgel, I pluckt forth his tongue and made him speake.

Of Clapperdogcons.

A Clapperdogcon is in English, a Beggar boyne: some call him a Pallyard: of which sorts there are two; first, naturall, secondly, Artificiall. This fellow (above all other that are in the Regiment of Rogues) goeth best armed against the crueltie of winter: he should be idle, for he labors to keep himselfe warme, wearing a patched Castor (a Cloake) for his upper Robe; under that a Togmance (a Gowne) with high Stampers, (shoes) the soles are inch thicke, pegged, or else patches at his Circle, ready to clap on: a great Scue (a browne dish) hanging at his Circle, & a tassel of Rhyms to wipe it. A brace of greasse Night-caps on his head, and over them (lest he should catch a kinabish cold) a hat (or Nab-cheat) a good Filch (or staffe) in his hand, having a little iron pegge in the end of it: a Bugher (a little dog) following him, with a smugge Doxy, attyed sit for such a Roguish Companion. At her back she carrieth a great pack, covered with a patched wast-guard, under which she concealeth all such things as she filcheth: her skill sometimes is to sell Fauxmes, to help the diseases of women and children. As she walks, she makes balls or shirt-strings (but now common, by they knit) and weares in her hat a needle with a thred at it. An excellent angler she is; for when her Cove Mawnds at any dooze, if any Poultry beare be picking up their crummes neare them, she seareth them with bread, & hath a thred tyed to a hooked pin, baited for the nonce, which the Chickin swallowing, is choked & conveyed under the Castor: chickens, linnen, woollen, or any thing that is worth the catching, comes into her Net.

Under this Banner of the patched Clapperdogcon, do I leve all Pallyards, as well those of the great Cleyne, or sozes, as others, whom I terme Artificiall Clapperdogcons; albeit they are not Beggars boyne.

Of their Mawnd.

This Pallyard (or Artificiall Clapperdogcon, who carrieth about him, the great Cleyne) to stir compassion up in people,

Whereunto is added, *O per se Q.*

ples hearts, this acteth his part: he slides to the earth by his staffe, & lying piteously on the ground, makes a fearfull horrid strange noise through an hoarse throat, uttering these lamentable tunes: Ah the Vrschip of God, looke out with your merciful eyne, one pittiful look upon sore, lame, grieved and impudent (so) impotent) people, sore troubled with the grievous disease, and have no rest day nor night by the Canker and Worme that continually eateth the flesh from the bone: for the Vrschip of God bestow one crosse of your small silver, to buy him salve and ointment to ease the poore wretched body, that never taketh rest: and God to reward you for it in Heaven. These Pallyards walke two or thre together, and as one gibes over his note, the second catcheth it at the rebound, using the selfe same howling and grunting, which ended, they say the Lords Prayer, and in many places the Ave; without ceasing, till something be given them.

How they make their great Sores, called the Cleyme.

They take Crow-foot, Sparrow, and host, and binding these together, they lay them upon the place of the sores which they desire to make seze: the skin by this means being fretted, they first clay a linnen cloth, till it sticks fast, which plucked off, the raw flesh hath scabs & bane throught upon it, to make it looke ugly: and then cast over that a cloth which is all smaten bloody and filthy, which they do so often, that in the end in this hurt they feele no paine, neither desire they to have it heales, but with their Doxies will scrabell (so) all their great Cleymes) from faire to faire, & from sparbet to sparbet being able by their Mawnding, to get the Boords (that is) the shillings in a week, in many an care. Which manner they hide under blew and greens patches: so that sometimes they have about them, six or seven pounds together.

The Clapperdogcons that have not the great Cleyme, are called Formerly Beggars.

Of their Exorcismes.

There is no lasty Kogue, but hath many, both sinner Brothers, and the Morte his sinners-wiffrs: who take themselves body and soule to the Deuill, to performe their two Articles following: viz.

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Articles of their Fraternities.

Thou shalt my true brother be, keeping thy faith to thy other brothers (as to my selfe) if any such thou have.

2. Thou shalt keep me counsell, and all other my brothers, being knowne to thee.

3. Thou shalt take part with me, and all other my brothers in all matters.

4. Thou shalt not heare me ill spoken of, without reuenge to thy power.

5. Thou shalt see me want nothing, to which thou canst helpe me.

6. Thou shalt giue me part of all thy winnings whatsoeuer.

7. Thou shalt not but keepe true pointments with me for meetings, be it by day or night, at what place soeuer.

8. Thou shalt teach no household to Cant, neither confesse any thing to them, be it neuer so true, but deny the same with oathes.

9. Thou shalt doe no hurt to any Mawnder, but with thine owne hands: and thou shalt forbeare none that disclose these secrets.

10. Thou shalt take Clothes, Pens, Case, Bigs, Bacon, & such like for thy winnings, where euer thou canst haue them.

How to know their Brother-hoods.

Vhen at the end of a Towne, wherein a Faile of water her where, you see an assembly of them together, chiding, bawling, but not fighting, then those Coves are two or three brothers. If likewise two Boxes fall together by the eares, whilst the Rogues themselves stand by and fight not, that also is a Brother-hood: for it is one of many of their Lawes, to take part with their Boxes in any wrong.

Of their Names.

Every one of them hath a peculiar Pick name, proper to himselfe, by the which he is more knowne more enquired after by his Brothers, and in common familiarity more saluted then by his owne true name: yea, the false is used so much, that the true is forgotten. And of these Pick names, some are given to them for some speciall cause: as Olli Compolli is the By name of some one principall Rogue amongst them, being an Abram, being bestowed upon him, because by that he is

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

knowne to be the head, as chiefe amongst them: In like manner these *Spit*-names following, belong to other *Grand Signi-ors*, and *Commanders*, viz. *Dimber Damber*, and *Hurley Burley*, *General Nurse*, *The High Sheriffe*, *The Constable*, and such like: and some *Spit*-names are either upon mockery, or upon pleasure given unto them: as *The great Bul*, *The little Bul*, and many other such like. The great Bull is some one notable lustie *Kogne*, who gets away all their wenches: for this great Bull (by report) had in one yere, thre and twenty *Doxies* (his *locky* was so lusty) such libertie have they in stanning, and such damnable and most detestable manner of life as they leade.

As the men have *Spit*-names, so likewise have the women: for some of them are called, *The white Ewe*, *The Lambe*, &c. And (as I have heard) there was an *Abram*, who called his *Mort*, *Madam Wap-apace*.

Of their Lib-kens, or Lodgings.

As these fugitive *Wagabonds* have *Spit*-names to themselves, so have the *Lib-kens*, or *Lodgings*, and places of meeting: as one of the meeting places (as I have heard) being a *Whap-coat*, is by the *Quest* of *Kognes*, who nightly assemble there, called by the name of *Stophole Abbey*: so likewise another of their *Lodgings* is called by the same name. They have others: as the blew Bull, the *Prancer*, the *Bulls belly*, the *Cowes Wader*, the *greene Arbour*, the *blazing Star*, &c. Such like *By*-names give they also to their *Fencing Kens*: and note this, that after a *Robbery* done, they lye not within twelve miles at the least of the place where they doe it; but having eaten up their *holne Button* (baked as aforesaid) away they trudge through thicke and thinne, all the *Patens* of *Hell*, into which they put in, being alwaies for the most part, of an equal distance one from another: for looke how farre, as the one *Stophole Abbey* stands from the other, and just so farre is the *Bulls belly* from the *Cowes Wader*, & so of the rest: so that what way soever these night *Spirits* doe take, after they have done their deeds of *Darknesse*, they know what pace to keep, because (what *Storms* soever fall) they are sure of harbour, all their *journeys* being but of one length. Yet dare they not but let their *Morts* and their *Doxies* meet them at some of these places,

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places because how cold soever the weather be, their female
tatties come hotely and smoking from thence, carrying about
them Glymmar in the Prat (fire in the touch-hole) by whose
flashes oftentimes there is Glymmar in the locky (the stick is
blowne up too) of which dangerous and deadly skirmishes, the
fact is laid upon the bingamen dwelling thereabout, who like
freebooters, are so hungry of flesh, that a Doxie (if she have a
long face) cannot passe out, but she is taken up for the barks
meat. And it is no wonder there is such stealing of those wilde
Bucks, because there is such Roze of them: no; is it a marvell
there is such Roze, it hence he is not held worthy to walk or to
be counted one of the foure and twenty Orders, but to be ban-
ished (as a silly Animal & a Straker) from all goodfellowship,
society and meetings at faires, Markets, and merry Bowling
Kens, who when the Trumpet sounds (that is to say, when the
Cuckoe sings) thrusts not out his head like a snail out of his
shell and walks not abroad about the Deaf-vile (the Country)
with his spirit of Lechery & thieving, (his Doxy) at his heels.

Why the Staffe is called a Filch.

Thus much for their Fraternities, Games, Lodgings,
and Assemblies, at all which times every one of them
carries a short staffe in his hand, which is called a Filch, ha-
ving in the Nab or head of it, a Ferme (that is to say, a hole)
into which, upon any piece of service, when he goes a Filch-
ing, he putteth a hook of iron, with which hook he angles
at a window in the dead of night, for shirts, smokes, or any
other linnen or wollen: and for that reason is the staffe term-
med a Filch. So that it is as certaine, that he is an Angler
for Duds, who hath a Ferme in the Nab of his Filch, as that he
is a thiefe, who upon the high way cries stand, and takes a
purse. This staffe serveth to many uses, then either the
Crosse-staffe, or the Jacobs, but the uses are not so good, nor so
honest: for, this Filching-staffe being artificially handled, is
able now and then to Mill a Grunter, a bleating Cheate, a Red-
shanke, a Tib of the Buttery, and such like, or to Fib a Coves
Quarrons in the Rome pad, for his Loure in his Bung, that is to
say, to kill a Wigge, a Wherpe, a Durke, a Goose, and such like,
or to beat a man by the high way for the money in his purse.

And

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

And yet for all these base villanies and others, of what black
names soever they be, you shall at every Raffles and Sessions,
for fearures of them, boldly adventuring amongst the Prison-
ners, canke of their attempting their own danger so, as, that
being sworn Brothers in league, and Partners in one and the
same thievery, it behoves them to listen to the Prisoners con-
fession (which they doe secretly) and so to take their holes, if
they spy a Roome coming. Another canke is, to learne what
Aunt-things caught the Bird ith Cage, and how he was en-
tangled by the Indies in his examination, that thereby he a-
broad may shew the like: but the Devil is their Tutor, Hell
their Schoole, Thievery, Roguery, and all horredoms, the
Arts they studie; before Doges Story they dispute, and at the
Gallows are made Graduates of Newgate, and other Hayles
(the Hang-mans Colledges.) All these saze-named Monsters
of a Kingdome, (with many others like them) as they are dif-
fering from others in their manner of life, so have they begot-
ten among themselves as strange a Gibblish Language, which
they call Canting.

Of Canting.

CHAP. XIX.

How long it hath beene a Language: how it comes to
be a Language: how it is derived: and by
whom it is spoken.

You shall therefore know how it grew to be a Language.
When all the world was but one Kingdome, all the
People of that Kingdome spake but one Language. A
man could travell in those dayes, neither by Sea nor Land,
but he met his Countrymen, and none others. Two could
not then stand gabbling with strange tongues, and conspire
together (to his owne face) how to cut a third-mans throat,
but hee might understand them. There was no Spaniard (in
that age) to brabe his Enemy in the rich and lofty Castilian:
no Romane Orator to pleade in the Rhetoricall and fluent
Latine: no Italian to court his Mistress in the sweet and ame-
rous Tuscan: no Frenchman to parley in the full and statelie
phrase.

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English
tongue
compara-
ble to the
best.

phrase of Orleans : no Germane to thunder out the high and rattling Dutch, the unfraughtfull crabbed Irish, and the bolle significant Welch, were not then so much as spoken of: the quicke Scottish Dialect (after to the English) had not then a tongue, neither were the strings to the English speech (in those times) untied. When she first learned to speake, it was but a broken Language: the simplest and the simplest words flowed from her utterance; for she dealt in nothing but in Monosyllables, (as if to have spoken words of greater length would have crackt her voice, by which meanes her Eloquence was prozett, yet hardest to learne, and so (but for necessity) not regarded amongst strangers. Yet afterwards those noblest Languages lent her words and phrases, and turning those borrowings into good husbandry, she is now as rich in Elocution, and as abundant as her proudest and best storied Neighbours.

Building
of Babel.

Confusion
describ'd.

Whilist thus (as I said before) there was but one Alphabet of Letters for all the World to read by: all the people that then lived, might have wrought upon one piece of work in Countries far distant asunder, without mistaking one another, and not needing an Interpreter run betwixen them, which thing Nymrod (the first Idolater) perceiving, and not knowing better how to imploy so many thousand Millions of Subjects as bowed before him: a fire of Ambition burned within him, to climbe up so high, that he might see what was done in Heaben. And for the purpose, workmen were summoned from all the corners of the Earth, who presently were set to build the Tower of Babel. But the master workman of this great Univerſe (to checke the insolence of such a lawles builder) that durst raise up Pinacles equall to his own (above) commanded the selfe same Spirit, that was both bred in the Chaos, and had maintained it in disorder, to be both Surveyor of those works, and controller of the Labourers. This Messenger was called Confusion. It was a Spirit swift of sight, and faithfull of service. Her looks wilde, terrible and unconſtant: her attire carelesly loose, and a thousand severall colours. In one hand she grip'd a heap of storms, with which (at her pleasure) she could trouble the waters: in the other she held a whip,

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

whin, to make three Spirits that obey her, to gallop fast before her: the Spirits names were Treason, Sedition, and Warre, who, at every time when they went abroad, were ready to set Kingdomes in an uproare. She rode upon a Chariot of clouds which was always furnished with Thunder, Lightning, Winds, Raine, Hailestones, Snow, and all the other Artillery belonging to the service of Divine Vengeance: and when she spake, her voyce sounded like the roaring of so many Torrents, hoysterously struggling together, for between her iawes did she carry 100000 tongues.

This strange Linguist stepping to every Artificer that was there at worke, whispered in his eare: whose looks were there, upon (presently) fill'd with a strange distraction: and on a sudden, whilst every man was speaking to his fellow, his Language altered, and no man could understand what his fellow spake. They all stared one upon another, yet none of them all could tell wherefore they so stared. Their tongues went, and their hands gave action to their tongues, yet neither words nor action were understood. It was a noise of a thousand sounds, and yet the sound of the noise was nothing. Hee that spake, knew he spake well: and he that heard, was mad that the other spake no better. In the end they grew angry one with another, as thinking they had mocked one another of purpose: so that the Mason was ready to strike the Bricklayer, the Bricklayer to beate out the braines of his Labourer: the Carpenter tooke up his axe to throw at the Carver, whilst the Carver was stabbing at the Smith, because he brought him an Hammer, when he should have made him a Chezzell. He that called for Timber, had Stones laid before him: when one was sent for Nayles, he secht a Tray of Morter.

Thus Babel should have been raised, and by this meanes Babel fell. The frame could not goe forward, the stufte was throught by, the workemen made Holiday. Every one pack'd up his tooles to be gone, yet not to goe the same way that he came, but glad was he that could meete another whose speech he understood: for to what place soever he went, others (that ranne madding up and downe) hearing a man speake like themselves, followed onely him: so that they who when the worke began

Beginning
of Language
Bcs.

The *Bel-mans* Night-walkes. W

began, were all Country men, before a quarter of it was finished fled from one another, as from enemies and strangers. And in this manner did men at the first make up Nations: thus were words copied into Languages, and out of those Languages, have others beene moulded since, onely by the mixture of Nations, after Kingdomes have been subdued. But I am now to speake of a People and a Language, of both which (many thousands of yeeres since that Wonder wrought at Babel) the world till now never made mention: yet confusion never dwelt more among any Creatures. The *Bel-man* (in his first Voyage which he made for Discoveries) found them to be Savages, yet living in an Island very temperate, fruitfull, full of a Noble Nation, rarely governed. The Lawes, manners, and habits of these Wild-men are plainly set downe, as it were in a former painted Table. Yet lest happily a stranger may desire to looke upon this second picture of them, who never beheld the first, it shall not be amisse (in this place) to repeat over againe, the names of all the Tribes, into which they divide themselves, both when they serve abroad in the open fields, and when they lye in Garrison within Townes and walled Cities.

And these are their Ranks, as they stand in Order, viz.

R Vfflers.
Vpright-men.
Hookers, *Alias* Anglers.
Rogues.
Wilde Rogues.
Priggers of Prancers.
Pallyards.
Fraters.
Prigges.
Swadlers.
Curtals.
Irish-Toyles.
Swigmen.
Jarkemen.

Patri-coes.
Kirchin-Coes.
Abram-men.
Mad Tom, *alias* of Bedla.
Whip-Iackes.
Counterfeit Crankes.
Dommerars.
Glymmeter.
Bawdy-Baskets.
Antem Morts.
Doxies.
Dells.
Kirchin-Morts.

Whereunto is added, O per se O.

Into thus many Regiments are they now divided: but in former times (about foure hundred yeeres now past) they did consist of fife Squadrons onely.

1. Curstors, alias Vacabondes.
2. Faytors.
3. Robardesmen.
4. Draw-latches.
5. Sturdy Beggars.

And as these people are strange both in names and in their conditions, so do they speake a Language (proper only to themselves) called Canting, which is more strange. By none but the Soldiers of these tottered Bands it is familiarly or usually spoken, yet within lesse then fourescore yeeres (now past) not a word of this language was known. The first inventoz of it was hang'd, yet left he apt Schollers behinde him, who have reduced that into Method, which he on his death-bed (which was a paire of Gallies) could not so absolutely perfect as he desired.

It was necessary that a people, so fast increasing, and so daily practising new and strange Villanies, should borrow to themselves a speech, which so neer as they could none but themselves should understand: and for that cause is this language (which some call Pedlers French) invented to this intent, that (albeit any spies should secretly steale into their Companies to discover them) they might freely utter their mindes one to another, yet avoid the danger. The language therefore of Canting, they study even from their infancy, that is to say, from the very first houre that they take upon them their names of Kitching-Cos, till they are growne Rufflers, or Upright-men, which are the highest in degree amongst them.

This word Canting, seemes to be derived from the Latine Verbe (Canto) which signifies in English, to sing, or to make a sound with words, that is to say, to speake. And very aptly may Canting take his derivation, a cantando, from singing, because amongst these beggerly consoys that can play upon no better instruments, the language of Canting is a kind of musike, and he that in such assemblies can Cant best, is counted the best musician.

Now as touching the Dialect or phrase it selfe, I see not that

Of Canting.
How long Canting hath been used.
The first Canter hanged.

How Canting grew to be a language.

The Bel-mans Night-walkes.

that is grounded upon any certaine rules; And no manbell
if it have none, for it hinders both the Father of this new kinde
of Learning, and the children that lerne to speake it after him,
have beene from the beginning, and still are the Breeders and
Nourishers of all base disorder, in their living, and in their Man-
ners: how is it possible, they should observe any Method in their
speech, and especially in such a language, as serves but onely to
utter discourses of villanies?

And yet even out of all that irregularity, unhandsonnes, and
confusion of Barbarisme they draw a kinde of forme: and in
some words, (as well simple as compounds) retainne a certaine
salt, tasting of some Wit and some Learning. As for example,
they call a *Chauke* (in the Canting tongue) a *Togeman*, and in
Latine, *Toga* signifies a *Robe*, or an upper garment. *Pannam*
is bread: and *Panis* in Latine is likewise bread: *Cassan* is
Cheese, and is a word barbarously cōyn'd out of the substan-
tive *Cacus*, which also signifies *Cheese*. And so of others.

When by joining of two simples, doe they make almost all
their compounds. As for example: *Nab* (in the canting tongue)
is a head, & *Nab-cheat* is a hat, or a cap: which word *cheat* being
coupled to other words, stands in very good stead, and does ex-
cellent service: For a *Smelling cheat* signifies a *nose*, a *Prat-
ling cheat*, is a *tongue*: *Crashing cheat* are *teeth*: *Hearing-
cheats* are *ears*, *fambles* are *hands*: & thereupon a ring is called
a *Fambling cheat*, a *muffling cheate*, signifies a *flapkin*. A
Belly cheat, an *Apzon*: a *Grunting cheat*, a *Pig*: *Cackling*
cheat, a *cock* or a *capon*: A *Quaking cheat*, a *calfe*, or a *sheepe*:
and so may that word be married to many others besides.

The Dia-
lect of can-
ting.

The word *Cove*, or *Cofe* or *Cuffin* signifies a man, a fellow,
&c. But differs something in his propriety, according as it meets
with other words: For a *Gentleman* is called a *Gentry Cove*,
or *Cofe*: A good fellow is a *Benecote*: a *Chauke* is called, a
Quier Cuffin, *Quier* signifies naught, and *Cuffin* (as I said be-
fore) a man; and in Canting they terme a *Justice of Peace* (be-
cause he pacifieth them belike) by no other name then by *Quier*
cuffin, that is to say, a *Chauke*, a naughty man. And so *Ken* signi-
fying a house, they call a *prison*, a *Quier Ken*, that is to say, an
ill house.

Whereunto is added, O per se O.

Many pieces of this strange rhyme could I shew you, but by these small stumps, you may judge of the greater.

Now because a language is nothing else, then heapes of words, orderly woven and composed together: and that within so narrow a circle as I have drawn to my selfe, it is impossible to imprint a Dictionary of all the Canting phrases: I will at this time, not make your feet on too much: but as if you were walking in a garden, you shall once pick here a flower, and there another, which (as I take it) will be long delightful then if you gathered them by handfuls.

But before I leade you into that walk, stay and heare a Canter in his owne language making Richmes, albeit I think those charmes of Poetic wit (at the first) made the barbarous tame, and brought them to civility, can upon these savage monsters worke no such wonder. Yet thus he sings (upon demand whether any of his owne crew did come that way) to which hee answers, yes quoth he.

Canting Richmes.

E Nough with Bowle Cove maund Nace,
Toure the Parring Cove in the Darkmans cale,
Docked the Dell for a Copper make,
His watch shall feng a Prounces Nab-cheat,
Cyarum by Salmon, and thou shalt peck my Iace,
In thy Gan for my watch it is nace gere,
For the bene bowse my watch hath a win, &c.

This short Lesson I leave to be continued by him that is desirous to try his skill in the language, which he may doe by help of the following Dictionary: into which way that he may more readily come, I will translate into English, this broken French that followes in Prose. Two Canters having mingled a while about some idle quarrell, at length growing friends, thus one of them speakes to the other, viz.

A Canter in Prose.

S Stowe you bene Cofe; and cut denar whidder and hing we to Rome vile, to nip a boung: so shall we have Loue for the bowling ken, and when we hing back to the Dewle a vile, we will filch some Duds of the Ruff-mans, or mill the Ken for a Lagge of Duds.

The Bel-mans Night-walkes.

Thus Englished.

Stowe you bene Cofe : hold your peace good fellow.
 And cut bene whiddes : and speake better wordes.
 And bing we to Rome vile : and go we to London.
 To nip a boung : to cut a Purle.
 So shall we have lowre : so shall we have money.
 For the Bowsing Ken : for the Ale-house.
 And when we bing backe : and when we come backe.
 To the Deulca vile : into the Countrey.
 We will filch some Duds : we will filch some clothes.
 Of the Ruff-mans : from the hedges.
 Or Mill the Ken : or rob the house.
 For a lagge of Duds : for a Buck of clothes.

Now turne to your Dictionary.

Ad because you shall not have one dish twice set before
 you, none of those Canting words that are Englished be-
 fore, shall here be found : for our intent is to feast you with
 variety.

The Canters Dictionary.

Avtem, a Church.
 Autem-mort, a married woman.
 Boung, a Purle.
 Borde, a Shilling.
 Halfe a Borde, Six-pence.
 Bowse, Drinke.
 Bowsing Ken, an Ale-house.
 Bene, good.
 Beneship, very good.
 Buse, a Dogge.
 Bing a Wall, get your bence.
 Caster, a Cloake.
 A Commission, a shirt.
 Chares, the Gallowes.
 To cly the Jerke, to be whipped.
 To cut, to speake.
 To cut bene, to speake gently.
 To cut bene whiddes, to speake good wordes.
 To cut quier whiddes, to give evill language.
 To Cant, to speak.

Whereunto is added, Oghed.

To couch a Hoghead, to lye down asleep.
 Drawers, Hosen.
 Duddes, Cloathes.
 Darkemans, the night.
 Deusea-vile, the Country.
 Dub the Giger, open the doze.
 Fambles, hands.
 Fambling chear, a Ring.
 Flagge, a Goat.
 Glasiers, Eyes.
 Gan, a mouth.
 Gage, a Quart-pot.
 Grannam, Corn.
 Gybe, a twisting.
 Glymmer, Fire.
 Gigger, a Dooze.
 Gentry Mort, a Gentle-woman.
 Gentry Cofes Ken, a Noble mans house.
 Harman-beck, a Constable.
 Har mans, the Stocks.
 Heave a bough, rob a Booth.
 Jarke, a Seale.
 Ken, a House.
 Lage a Duds, a Buck of cloathes.
 Libbege, a Bed.
 Lowre, poney.
 Lap, Butter-spik, or Whay.
 Libkin, a House to lie in.
 Lage, Water.
 Lichte-mans, the Day.
 Myn, Don.
 A Make, a little penny.
 Margery Prater, a Pen.
 Mawding, a Pen.
 To Mill, to Mill.
 Mill, a Ken.
 Note gen, a Pen.
 Niggling, a Pen.
 Pen, a Pen.

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The Belman's Night-walkes. W

Peck, meate.
 Poplars, Pottage.
 Prancer, a Horse.
 Prigging, Riding.
 Patrico, a Priest.
 Pad, a way.
 Quaromes, a Body.
 Ruff-peck, Bacon.
 Roger, or Tib of the Buttery, a Goose.
 Rome-vile, London.
 Rome bowle, Wine.
 Rome mort, a Queene.
 Ruff-mans, the woods of bushes.
 Ruffian, the Devil.
 Stamples, Legges.
 Stampers, Shoes.
 Slate, a Sheet.
 Skew, a Cup.
 Solomon, the Spalle.
 Stulingken: a house to receive stolne goods.
 Skipper, a Barne.
 Strommel, a straw.
 Smelling cheate, an Orchard or Garden.
 To scowre the Crampring, to weare holts.
 Stalling, making of ordaining.
 Tryning, hanging.
 To Towre, to see.
 Wynn, a penny.
 Yarum, a strike.

And thus have I builed up a little Mint: where you may
 coine words for your pleasure. The payment of this was a
 debt; for the Bel-man at his farewell (in his last Round
 which he walked) promised so much. If he keepe not touch,
 by tendering the due Summe he desires to beance, and if any
 that is more rich in this Canting commonde, than I am, have
 any more, or any better, he will pay his labor. In the
 meane time receive this, and to give it a little more, I hope,
 you shall have a Canting Song, which you may use as you please.

Whereunto is added, O per se O.

This cursed Generation pray, o (to speake trueth) curse such
Officers as punish them.

A Canting Song.

THe Ruffin cly the nab of the Harman-beck,
If we Maund Pannam, lap, or Ruffe peck,
Or poplars of yraum : he cuts, bing to the Ruff-mans,
Or else he sweares by the light-mans,
To put our stamps in the Harmans.
The Ruffian cly the Ghost of the Harmanbeck,
If we heave a Booth we cly the Ierke.
If we niggle or mill a Bowsing Ken,
Or nip a Bounge that hath but a Win,
Or dup the giger of a Gentry Cofes Ken,
To the quier Cuffing we bing,
And then to the quier Ken to scowre the cramp-ring
And then to be Trin'de on the chares in the light-mans,
The Babe and the Ruffian cly the Harmanbeck and Harmans.

Thus Englished.

The Devill take the Constables head,
If we beg Bacon, Butter-milke o (bread :
O (bottage, to the hedge he bids us bie.
O (sweares (by this light) i' th stocks we shall lye :
The Devill haunt the Constables Ghost,
If we rob but a Booth we are whipt at a post.
If an Ale-house we rob, o (be tane with a talboze,
O (cut a purse that hath iust a penny and no more,
O (come but stealing in at a Gentlemans dooze,
To the Justice straight we goe,
And then to the Jaylor to be shackled : And so
To be hang'd on the Gallowes i' th day time : the por
And the Devill take the Constable and his stocks.

Another sung by the Cantars at their meeting.

1. **B**ing out bien Morts and toure, and toure,
bing out bien Morts and toure :
For all your Duds are bingd awast,
the bien Couc hath the loure.

The Bel-mans Night walks.

1. I met a Dell, I view'd her well,
she was beship to my watch :
So she and I did stall and cloy,
what ever we could catch.
2. This Doxie Dell, can cut bien whids,
and wap well for a win :
And Prig and cloy so beshiply,
all the Deuse a-vile within
3. The boyle was up, we had good lucke,
in frost, for and in Snow ;
When they did seeke, then did we creepe,
and plant in Ruff-mans low.
4. To Strawling Ken, the Mort bings then
to fetch lowre for her cheats :
Duds and Ruffe-peck romb'd by Harman-beck,
and won by Mawnders feats :
5. You mawnders all, stow what you stall,
to Rome coves what so Quire :
And wapping Dell, that niggles well,
and takes loure for her hire.
6. And Lybe well Ierkit, tick rome confect,
for backe by glymmer to Mawnd :
To Mill each Ken, let coue bing then,
through ruff-mans Iague or laund.
7. Till cramprings Quire, tip Cove his hire,
And Quier Ken doe them catch :
A canniken mill Quire cussen,
so Quier to ben Coves watch.
8. Bien dark-mans then, Boule Mort, and Ken,
the bien Coves bings a wast :
On chates to trine by Rome-coves dine,
for his long lib at last.
9. Bingd out bien Mortis and toure,
bing out of the Rome-vise :
And towre the cove, that cloyd your duds,
open the chates to trine.

Whereunto is added, *Capitulum*

Thus for satisfaction of the Reader, Englished.

1. **G**o forth (brave Gyles) looke out, looke out,
 looke out I say (good Conies)
For all your clothes are stolne (I doubt)
 mad shavers share the monies.
2. I met a dyab, I lik't her well,
 (my bowles did sit her Alley :)
We both did vow to rob pell mell,
 and so abroad did sally.
3. This bolwicing Trull can rarely talke,
 a penny will make her — :
Through any towne which she doth walke,
 nought can her filching scape.
4. The house being raif d aside we step,
 and through the mire did wade :
To avoyde Huc and Cry to a hedge we crept,
 And under it close were layd.
5. To the Wokers then my hedge-bird flies,
 for stolne goods bzinging coyne :
Which (though the Constable after bies)
 our trickes away purloine.
6. You Mawnding Rogues, how you steale be ware,
 for pryvie search is made :
(Take heed thou to, thou backny spare)
 who nere art ridded, but paid.
7. A Licence got with counterfeit Seale,
 to begge (as if undone
By fire) to bzeake each house, and steale,
 oze hedge and ditch, then rume.
8. Till Shackels soundly pay us home,
 and to the Gaile compell us :
Hels plague the Justice heart consume,
 so cruell to good fellows.
9. Sweet Bunke, beere-house, and beere good night,
 the honest Rogue's departed
To hanging (by the Justice spite)
 to his long home hee's carted.

The Bel-mans Night-walkes.

1. *Stumpt weete Ducks, with greedy eyes,
from London walke up Holborne:
But him who stole your clothes: he flies,
with hempen wings to Tyborne.*

Another.

1. **D** Oxie oh! thy Glaziers shine,
as Glymmer; by the Salomon:
No Gentry Mort hath Prats like thine,
no Dell ere Wap'd with such a one.
2. White thy Fambles, and thy Gan,
and thy Quarrons dainty is:
Couch a Hogs-head with me than,
in the Dark-mans clip and kisse.
3. What though I no Caster weare,
nor Commission, no nor Slate.
Store of Strommell weele haye here,
and i'th skipper Lib in State,
4. Niggling thou (I know) dost love,
else the Ruffin dy thee Mort:
From thy stampers then remove,
t hy Drawers and let's prig in sport.
5. When the Lightmans up does call,
Margery Prater from the nest:
And her cackling cheat withall,
in a Bowsing Ken weele feast,
6. There (if Loure we want) Ile Mill
a Cage, or Nip for thee a Bounge:
Ben Bowse thou shalt Bowse thy fill,
and crash a grunting cheat thars young.
7. Bing a waste to Rome-yile then,
(O my Doxie, O my Dell)
Weele heave a Booth, and Dock agen,
and Tryning scape and all is well.

Thus Englished.

1. **O** my churche, by th' spalle I sweare;
thine eyes, than fire doe some more cleare:
No Rustling Gidle hath thighs like thine,
no Doe was ever Buck'd like mine,

Whereunto is added, *O per se O.*

2. **W**hite thy hand is, red thy lippe,
thy dainty body I le not skippe;
To sleepe, then downe our selves lets lay,
and coll i' th darke, and kisse and play.
3. **S**ay I a Plimmouth cloake doe weare,
say, that noz shirt noz sheete I beare;
Yet straw wee le have, both fresh and sweete,
and tumble when i' th warme we meete.
4. **T**hou doest (I know) the old sport love,
(else may the soule fiend in thee move)
Doffe thou then thy Shooe and Hose,
and lets too t with obdure right blowes.
5. **W**hen the morning up shall call,
from his roost the Cocke and all
His cackling wnes, — then thou and I,
at Lappe-house will for strong Ale cry.
6. **T**here if wee want our shot to pay,
Ile filch, or nip, and steale away,
Sucke off thy Liquor then thy fill,
some sucking Pig for thee Ile kill:
7. **T**o London therefore up lets hie,
(o thou my sweete bewitching eye!)
There wee le rob and too t Bell spell,
and Tyborne scape, and all is well.

Another.

1. **N**ow my Kinchin cove is gone,
by the Rome-Pad Maundred none:
In Quarrons both for stamps and bone,
like my clapperdodgeon.
2. **D**imber Damber fare thee well,
Pallyards all thou didst excell:
And thy Iocky bare the Bell,
Glymmer on it never fell.
3. **T**hou the Cramp-rings neredidst scowre,
Harmans had on thee no power,
Harman-becks did never Towre,
for thee the Drawers still had Loure.

The Dr. Night walks.

- Darts and Chests thou oft hast wonne,
 yet the Cuffin Quire couldst shunne :
 And thy Deuse a-vile didst runne,
 else the Chares had thee undone.
5. Canke and Dommcrat thou couldst play,
 or Rum Mawnder in one day.
 And like an Abram cove couldst pray,
 yet passewith Iybes (well Ierk't away.)
6. When the Dark-mans have beene wet,
 thou the crack-mans downe didst beate,
 For Glymmar whil'st a quacking cheate,
 or Tib ath' Buttery was our meate.
7. Red-shankes then I could not lacke,
 Ruffe-peck still hung at my backe :
 Grannam ever fil'd my sacke :
 With Lap and Poplars held I tacker.
8. To thy Bugar and thy skew,
 Filch and Iybes I bid adue :
 Though thy Togeman were not new,
 yet the Ruffler in't was true.

Another, Thus Englished.

1. **N**OW my little Rogue is gone,
 by the high-way begs there none :
 In body both for legg and bone,
 like my Clapperdoocon.
2. Pretty Rascall fare thee well,
 all Beggers borne thou dost excell :
 Thy thrashing-flayles still bare the well,
 for into th' fire it never fell.
3. Bolt's my boy did never weare,
 never thou the Stocks dost feare :
 For thee no Constable did sweare,
 for in thy Purse, thou cask do'st beere.
4. Clothes by stealth thou oft hast won,
 yet the Justice fingers thum :
 And up and downe the Country come,
 the Gallowes else had thee undone.

Whereunto is added,

5. Dumb and mad-man thou couldst play,
or a flatering foole all day:
And like a lusty Rogue couldst pray,
yet scape, with passes seald along.
6. When the Evening has beene wet,
thou the hedges downe dost beat
For fire, and some of Ducks wouldst cheate,
or else a goose was our meate.
7. Gallards then I could not lacke,
Bacon hung eber at my backe.
Cozne likewise alwayes fill'd my lacke;
with good spilke Pottage held I tacke.
8. To thy Curre and dish adue,
thy staffe and passe I neere must view:
Though thy * Castor was not new, Cloake
my brabe strong Rogue in't yet was true.

Enough of this, and he that desires more picces of
such Pedlary ware, may out of this little packe,
fit himselfe with any colours.

Vale.

FINIS.

Febru. 27.
1637.

Recudatur
Marth. Clay.